

**Senate Bill No. 503**

(By Senators Kessler (Mr. President), Yost, Wells, Cann, Nohe and  
Fitzsimmons)

[Introduced March 12, 2013; referred to the Committee on  
Government Organization; and then to the Committee on the  
Judiciary.]

**FISCAL  
NOTE**

A BILL to amend and reenact §7-3-2a of the Code of West Virginia,  
1931, as amended, relating to requiring purchase and display  
of POW/MIA flag at county courthouses and other government  
buildings.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That §7-3-2a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,  
be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 3. COUNTY PROPERTY.**

**§7-3-2a. County commissions to purchase and display flags.**

The county commission of every county of the state shall  
purchase, out of its General Revenue Fund, a United States flag,  
and a flag of the State of West Virginia, four feet by six feet in

1 dimensions and of regulation bunting, or of other appropriate size  
2 and quality, for its courthouse, and shall require the flags to be  
3 displayed from the courthouse, or from an appropriate nearby staff  
4 or pole, every day between the hours of sunrise and sunset, except  
5 in inclement weather. Each county commission shall also purchase  
6 a United States flag and a flag of the State of West Virginia, and  
7 require the flags to be displayed at all times in the circuit  
8 courtroom of the county. Each county and any municipality therein  
9 ~~may~~ shall purchase a POW-MIA flag to be displayed from its  
10 courthouse or other governmental building alongside the state flag  
11 and United States flag on Memorial Day, Armed Forces Day, Flag Day,  
12 Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veteran's  
13 Day each year. The custodian or other person in charge of the  
14 courthouse shall display the flags as required by this section.

15 Any United States flag, ~~or~~ flag of the State of West Virginia  
16 or POW/MIA flag purchased out of the general revenue of the county  
17 must be manufactured in the United States.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require the POW/MIA flag to be displayed at county courthouses and certain other buildings on certain occasions.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.