

Senator Richard Marcellais
Senate District 9
Testimony for HB 1403

Chairman Luick members of the Senate Agriculture & Veterans Affairs committee, for the record my name is Richard Marcellais Senator from District 9.

I am here today to testify in favor of HB 1403 relating to the designation of Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Day as a state holiday.

Nearly 81,00 American Veterans remain missing after have served in World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War and other conflicts involving the United States, according to the United States Defense Department.

The National League of Families Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (MIA/POW) flag was adopted in 1972 and consists of the official emblem of the National League of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia in white on a black background. In 2019 the National POW/MIA Flag Act was signed into law, requiring the POW/MIA flag to be flown on certain federal properties including the U.S Capitol Building, on all days the U.S. Flag is flown.

The flag symbolizes support and care for the Veterans who served the United States in the Vietnam War, especially those who endured capture by the enemy.

Chairman Luick members of the Agriculture & Veterans Affairs Committee, I am in favor of HB 1403 and will stand for any question.