

Exhibit No. 2  
 Date 2/20/2013  
 Bill No. HB 214

*It's a great day to fly the Flag . . .*

Proponent: Frederick Verzani with Montana Flag and Pole Co. here in Helena.

We have clients in several States to include the Dakota's, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana and the Province of Alberta, Canada.

My knowledge of flags, flagpoles and etiquette span two decades or more.

More importantly we are the Montana recognized distributor for many National Flag-makers and flagpole manufacturers.

My support today is to answer the question on what size flagpoles the Cities, Counties, Military and State Government buildings employ. Our history of accounts indicates that most of the flagpoles are a minimum of 30 feet, and many are 32, 35 and 40 feet tall.

These flagpoles have the capability by size to easily fly 4X6 and 5X8 flags. Our client list of government entities indicate that most purchase the 4X6 and 5X8 size. That equates to 24 and 40 Sq Ft of flag surface.

Most 30 foot flagpoles are Iron, Steel or Aluminum shafts and have the manufacturing capability of displaying a 5X8 foot flag . . . **or a 4X6 and 3X5 in combination.** There are few if any wooden flagpoles in existence for government agencies based on my experience.

**The only costs or capital out-lay for the requested display of the POW-MIA Flag as stated in Section One of House Bill No. 214 should be the POW-MIA Flag and flag snaps for attachment to the existing halyards.**

I now ask you as a committee to support the **original** House Bill without the amended changing of the words **"MUST"** to "MAY." I support a pro-active Act **"REQUIRING"** the POW-MIA Flag to be flown as stated.

**Thank You for your efforts to enact this legislation.**

## RECOMMENDED FLAG SIZES

Most commercial flagpole and flag installations are for continuous outdoor use.

### PROPER FLAG SIZE:

Size is based upon the height of the flagpole and number of flags on that pole.

- FREESTANDING FLAGPOLES:** the width of a standard sized flag should be one-fourth the height of the flagpole.  
15' – 20' exposed height: 3'x5' flag size  
25' exposed height: 4'x6' flag size or combination of 3'x5' and 2'x3'  
30' - 35' exposed height: 5'x8' flag size or combination of 4'x6' and 3'x5'  
40 – 45' exposed height: 6'x10' flag size or combination of 5'x8' and 3'x5'  
50' exposed height: 8'x12' flag size or combination of 6'x10' and 4'x6'
- ROOF MOUNTED:** the width of the flag should be half-the-length of the pole.  
15' exposed height: 4'x6' flag size  
20'-30' exposed height: 5'x8' flag size  
35'-40' exposed height: 6'x10' flag size  
45'-50' exposed height: 8'x12' flag size
- OUTRIGGER FLAGPOLES:** flagpoles at an angle - the flag should be three-eighths to one-half the length of the pole.

### PROPER FABRIC SELECTION:

There are three main fabric types, each for different conditions:

- NYLON FLAGS** – a "best buy" as it offers the highest durability and, due to its light weight, is the most attractive when flying.
- POLYESTER FLAGS** – slightly more expensive for two-ply polyester but is heavier. Its best use is for larger flags and high-wind areas.
- LIGHTWEIGHT FLAGS** – when flags are used for only specified days of a year, extremely lightweight materials are the economical choice. This can be a nylon, single-ply polyester or cotton flag.

### FLAGPOLE WIND SPEED AFFECTS

Wind speeds and flagpole specifications determine wind speed maximum ratings for the size of flags to be flown and will vary with Flag manufacturer. Smaller flag sizes will increase the maximums of the flagged wind speed that causes concern for wear and flag damage.

The fabric of a flag will also determine the suggested maximum size of a flag(s) for a pole with the wind speed maximum known for the area the flagpole is installed.

