



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 937

January Session, 2009

Substitute House Bill No. 5949

House of Representatives, May 11, 2009

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. GERAGOSIAN of the 25th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE COUNTRY OF MANUFACTURE FOR FLAGS DISPLAYED ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) (a) All national or state flags
2 (1) displayed on or in any public building, as defined in section 1-1 of
3 the general statutes, or used for the purposes of sections 3-2b, 9-237
4 and 51-27g of the general statutes, and (2) purchased after the effective
5 date of this section, shall be manufactured in the United States.

6 (b) A municipality or local or regional board of education shall not
7 be required to comply with the provisions of subsection (a) of this
8 section if (1) the cost to purchase a national or state flag manufactured
9 in the United States is greater than the cost to purchase a national or
10 state flag manufactured outside of the United States, and (2) federal,
11 state or private funding is not available to such municipality or local or
12 regional board of education to purchase a national or state flag
13 manufactured in the United States. A municipality or local or regional

14 board of education may accept (A) a donation of a national or state flag
15 manufactured in the United States, or (B) gifts, grants and donations,
16 including in-kind donations, designated for the purchase of a national
17 or state flag manufactured in the United States.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2009</i>	New section

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Dept. of Administrative Services; Various State Agencies	GF - None	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Various Municipalities	None	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill requires, with one exception, that national and state flags purchased after July 1, 2009 and displayed on or in public buildings, on the walls of polling places during the hours of elections, or outside of courthouses be manufactured in the United States.

The bill is not expected to have a fiscal impact on municipalities and local and regional school districts because the bill has an exception allowing the purchase of flags manufactured outside the U.S. if they are less expensive than flags manufactured in the U.S.

As the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) only contracts with companies that provide national and state flags manufactured in the U.S., this bill will have no fiscal impact on state agencies that purchase flags off the DAS contract of approved flag vendors.

Sources: Department of Administrative Services

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5949*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE COUNTRY OF MANUFACTURE FOR
FLAGS DISPLAYED ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS.*****SUMMARY:**

With one exception, this bill requires that national and state flags purchased after July 1, 2009 and (1) displayed on or in public buildings, on the walls of polling places during election hours, or outside of courthouses or (2) provided by the veterans' affairs commissioner for use on the graves of legislators or statewide officers be manufactured in the United States. "Public buildings" are (1) buildings owned by the state or its political subdivisions, including statehouses, courthouses, town halls, arsenals, magazines, prisons, community correctional centers, almshouses, markets; (2) churches, chapels, meetinghouses, or other buildings generally used for religious worship; and (3) colleges, academies, schoolhouses, or other buildings generally used for literary instruction.

The bill creates an exception for local and regional boards of education if (1) the cost of purchasing U.S. manufactured flags exceeds the cost of purchasing flags manufactured elsewhere and (2) federal, state, and private funds are unavailable to offset the cost. It authorizes these boards to accept donations consisting of U.S. manufactured flags or gifts, grants, and other in-kind contributions designated for the purchase of such flags.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2009

BACKGROUND***Legislative History***

The House referred the bill (File 630) to the Appropriations Committee, which added the exception for local and regional boards of

education and the authority for these boards to accept donated flags or contributions for their purchase.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 0 (03/27/2009)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 51 Nay 0 (04/27/2009)