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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

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Office

H.B. 32
133rd General Assembly

Final Analysis

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Version: As Passed by the General Assembly

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Stein

Effective date: April 12, 2021

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SUMMARY

- Creates a suggested ceremonial procedure for retiring an Ohio state flag.
- Designates November 16 as Sanfilippo Syndrome Awareness Day.
- Designates March as Cardiac Amyloidosis Recognition Month.
- Designates September as Hirschsprung's Disease Awareness Month.
- Designates April 26 as Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) Day.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Ceremonial procedure for retiring an Ohio state flag

The General Assembly provides through the act a recommended ceremonial procedure to be used voluntarily with respect and dignity by civilians and civilian groups or organizations when retiring an Ohio state flag.

Separation of flag into six pieces

Before the ceremony begins, the state flag is cut into six separate pieces: the triangular blue union with stars as one piece, the three red stripes as three separate pieces, and the two white stripes as two separate pieces.

Ceremony proceeds with a preamble, pledge, and retirement by fire

All ceremony participants are provided a copy of the state pledge¹ and of the flag retirement ceremony preamble, which the bill establishes as the following:

“I am the flag of the state of Ohio.

My first witness to our country as your state symbol was to the assassination of President William McKinley on September 14, 1901.

Our state went nearly one hundred years without a flag to represent us.

The spirit of Ohio is within me.

I represent everything: from the hills and valleys, to the rivers and roadways of our great state.

I call our state great for many reasons.

Some have called our state the Mother of Presidents.

Eight of our nation’s presidents have been born among these hills and valleys.

Know that, in my retirement, my spirit must live on.

The spirit of Ohio must live on!

The history of yesterday, the gifts of the present, and the future of tomorrow.

These principles are woven into me!”

Participants begin the ceremony with the preamble. Then, able participants are asked to stand at attention with their right hands placed over their hearts or in an appropriate position of salute while the speaker leads the state pledge.

The speaker asks that the five separated stripes be brought forth, stating “Please bring forth the stripes of our flag. These stripes represent the roads and waterways of Ohio. Let them now be retired by fire.” The speaker asks that the union and stars piece be brought forth, stating “Please bring forth the blue union and stars of our flag. This union represents the hills and valleys of Ohio. These stars represent our joining the Union as the 17th state. Now let them

¹ “I salute the flag of the state of Ohio and pledge to the buckeye state respect and loyalty.” R.C. 5.013, not in the act.

be retired by fire. As we continue about our daily lives, keep in mind the spirit of the flag and know that it lives on.”² This concludes the ceremonial procedure.

Special designations

Designation	Sanfilippo Syndrome Awareness Day ³
Date	November 16
Other Information	Sanfilippo Syndrome (also known as MPS III) is a rare, progressive, and fatal genetic disease affecting 1 in 70,000 children. It affects the metabolism of complex molecules and results in severe damage to the entire body, but most significantly to the brain. The symptoms have been described as comparable to Alzheimer’s disease, except in children. ⁴

Designation	Cardiac Amyloidosis Recognition Month ⁵
Date	March
Other Information	Cardiac amyloidosis occurs when plaques of protein byproduct called amyloid build up in heart muscle, affecting its ability to pump blood. ⁶

Designation	Hirschsprung’s Disease Awareness Month ⁷
Date	September
Other Information	The purpose of the designation is to increase public awareness of Hirschsprung’s Disease and encourage caregivers of newborns to seek an early diagnosis and proper treatment of this disease. Hirschsprung Disease is a birth defect in which nerve cells are missing at the end of a child’s bowel. These nerves normally allow the muscles in the wall of the bowel to contract and move digested material toward

² R.C. 5.015.

³ R.C. 5.2522.

⁴ Cure Sanfilippo Foundation, What is Sanfilippo, available at <https://curesff.org/what-issanfilippo/>.

⁵ R.C. 5.2524.

⁶ Johns Hopkins Medicine, Cardiac Amyloidosis, <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditionsand-diseases/cardiac-amyloidosis>.

⁷ R.C. 5.2526.

the anus, so the child can eliminate his or her waste. Hirschsprung Disease occurs in 1 out of every 5,000 live births. The disease occurs more often in males than in females and sometimes can be associated with inherited conditions.⁸

Designation Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) Day⁹

Date April 26

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-12-19
Reported, H. State & Local Gov't	03-07-19
Passed House (86-0)	11-18-20
Reported, S. Gov't Oversight & Reform	12-17-20
Passed Senate (31-0)	12-22-20
House concurred in Senate Amendments (82-0)	12-22-20

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⁸ National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, Hirschsprung Disease, available at <https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/digestive-diseases/hirschsprung-disease>; Nationwide Children's Hospital, What is Hirschsprung's Disease?, available at <https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/conditions/hirschsprung-disease>.

⁹ R.C. 5.2525.