

South Portland City Council
Position Paper of the City Manager

Subject:

PROCLAMATION #5-13/14 – Regarding Memorial Day, and directing that flags be placed on the graves of veterans. Passage requires majority vote.

Position:

State law (30-A M.R.S.A. §2901) requires that municipalities, on the day that Memorial Day is observed, decorate the graves of veterans with American flags. Accordingly, Proclamation #5-13/14 in addition to containing language recognizing veterans, current military personnel and the sacrifices of civilians in times of war, directs that flags be placed on veteran's graves on Memorial Day, May 26, 2014.

Requested Action:

Council passage of PROCLAMATION #5-13/14.


City Manager



CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND

GERARD A. JALBERT
Mayor

JAMES H. GAILEY
City Manager

SUSAN M. MOONEY
City Clerk

SALLY J. DAGGETT
Jensen Baird Gardner & Henry

IN CITY COUNCIL

PROCLAMATION #5-13/14

District One
MICHAEL R. POCK

District Two
PATRICIA A. SMITH

District Three
MELISSA E. LINSKOTT

District Four
LINDA C. COHEN

District Five
GERARD A. JALBERT

At Large
MAXINE R. BEECHER

At Large
THOMAS E. BLAKE

WHEREAS, Memorial Day is a national holiday dedicated to remembrance and recognition of veterans and those currently serving in the United States military; and

WHEREAS, throughout United States history the freedoms enjoyed by Americans have been won and protected through the sacrifices made by individual men and women in the various branches of the military, including National Guard and Reserve Forces; and

WHEREAS, families of members of the armed forces make sacrifices and suffer losses because of their relatives' service in the military; and

WHEREAS, in time of war some civilians may be casualties, and their sacrifices and the losses to their families are also deserving of recognition, respect and support.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED, that the South Portland City Council directs that on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, 2014, a United States flag shall be placed on the grave of every veteran buried within the City; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the South Portland City Council publicly states its respect for, gratitude to and support of all United States military service personnel and their families, and all civilians assisting in the current war effort and their families.

Dated: May 19, 2014