

**House State Government Engrossed Substitute for
HB5**



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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to state holidays; to designate Alabama Peace Officers' Memorial Day.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares the following:

(1) In 1962, President John F. Kennedy declared May 15 as National Peace Officers' Memorial Day, in honor of the American law enforcement officers who have been killed in the line of duty.

(2) The National Fraternal Order of Police initiated an annual service in 1982 to honor and remember fallen law enforcement officers.

(3) Since 1983, the Alabama State Fraternal Order of Police has annually held a Fallen Officer Memorial Service in honor of Alabama officers killed in the line of duty. This service is traditionally held on the south lawn of the State Capitol on the first Friday in May.

(4) Since its inception, Alabama's Fallen Officer Memorial Service has honored 598 officers, and the service has



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29 provided comfort to the families who have lost loved ones in
30 the line of duty.

31 (b) (1) The first Friday in May of each year is
32 designated as Alabama Peace Officers' Memorial Day. On this
33 day, the Alabama State Fraternal Order of Police may host a
34 Fallen Officer Memorial Service on the south lawn of the State
35 Capitol. All residents of this state are urged to devote some
36 portion of Peace Officers' Memorial Day to reflect upon the
37 sacrifice of Alabama law enforcement officers who were killed
38 in the line of duty and to honor their selfless contributions
39 to the livelihoods of their fellow Alabamians.

40 (2) Each county and municipality may ~~elect to observe~~
41 ~~designate the first Friday in May as~~ Alabama Peace Officers'
42 Memorial Day.

43 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first
44 day of the third month following its passage and approval by
45 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.