

By Mr. Driscoll of Boston, petition of Melvin D. Eddy and another for inclusion of the Veterans of World War I of the U. S. A. within the provisions of law relating to inscriptions on the flag of the United States or of Massachusetts. Military Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Nine.

AN ACT MAKING CERTAIN LAWS AFFECTING VETERANS AND THEIR ORGANIZATION APPLICABLE TO THE VETERANS OF WORLD WAR I OF THE U. S. A.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 264 of the General Laws is hereby amended by strik-
2 ing out section 70, as most recently amended by section 1 of
3 chapter 117 of the acts of 1941, and inserting in place thereof
4 the following section: —

5 *Section 5.* Whoever publicly mutilates, tramples upon, de-
6 faces or treats contemptuously the flag of the United States or
7 of Massachusetts, whether such flag is public or private prop-
8 erty, or whoever displays such flag or any representation thereof
9 upon which are words, figures, advertisement or designs, or
10 whoever causes or permits such flag to be used in a parade as a
11 receptacle for depositing or collecting money or any other article
12 or thing, or whoever exposes to public view, manufactures, sells,
13 exposes for sale, gives away or has in possession for sale or to
14 give away or for use for any purpose, any article or substance,
15 being an article of merchandise or a receptacle of merchandise
16 or articles upon which is attached, through a wrapping or other-
17 wise, engraved or printed in any manner, a representation of
18 the United States flag, or whoever uses any representation of
19 the arms or the great seal of the commonwealth for any adver-
20 tising or commercial purpose, shall be punished by a fine of not
21 less than ten nor more than one hundred dollars or by imprison-

22 ment for not more than one year, or both. Words, figures, ad-
23 vertisements or designs attached to, or directly or indirectly
24 connected with, such flag or any representation thereof in such
25 manner that such flag or its representation is used to attract
26 attention to or advertise such words, figures, advertisement or
27 designs, shall for the purpose of this section be deemed to be
28 upon such flag. Notwithstanding the foregoing, there may be
29 attached to the staff bearing a flag of the United States or of
30 Massachusetts belonging to an organization of veterans of the
31 Civil War, to a camp of the United Spanish War Veterans, to a
32 post or department of The American Legion, or to a post or de-
33 partment of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States,
34 or to a post or department of the Jewish War Veterans of the
35 United States, or to a camp or department of the Sons of Union
36 Veterans of the Civil War, or to a barracks or department of the
37 Veterans of World War I of the U. S. A. or belonging or used in
38 service of the United States or the commonwealth, a streamer
39 having inscribed thereon the names of battles and the name and
40 number of the organization to which such flag belongs. For
41 the purposes of this section, a flag shall be deemed to continue
42 to belong to any organization of veterans hereinbefore specified,
43 although such organization has ceased to exist, during such time
44 as it remains in the lawful ownership or custody of any other of
45 the aforesaid organizations or of the commonwealth or any
46 political subdivision thereof, or of any patriotic or historical
47 society incorporated under the laws of the commonwealth or
48 determined by the adjutant general to be a proper custodian.