

Official Salute to the State Flag

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Flying North Carolina's flag on state property has been required for 100 years. Now the flag is about to get its own salute.

The General Assembly approved Tuesday a bill setting in place an official salute to the flag as a way to boost respect and loyalty to North Carolina. Here is the salute:

"I salute the flag of North Carolina and pledge to the Old North State love, loyalty and faith."

The House passed the salute unanimously Tuesday. The Senate last month agreed to the measure, which now goes to Governor Mike Easley for his signature to be signed into law.

The salute has been used for decades by various women's clubs and women's political groups statewide but has never been placed in the state law books. The salute is performed with one's outstretched arm, with the palm of the hand facing upward.