

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation by *Governor Bill Walker*

WHEREAS, throughout American history, generations of military servicemen and women have bravely sacrificed much to protect our country, our people, and our freedom; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of these brave patriots were either captured in conflict and imprisoned by an enemy or went missing in action, never to return to their homeland; and

WHEREAS, families, friends of those missing and countless other Americans still deal with a lack of certainty regarding their fates; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has recently reinforced its commitment to maintaining POW/MIA accounting as a priority of the United States, though concerns remain about adequate funding and personnel; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska commends, supports, and shares our nation's commitment to account as fully as possible for Americans still missing and unaccounted-for from our nation's past wars and conflicts and calls on the President, Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense to consistently help account for and return our missing and unaccounted-for personnel to the United States; and

WHEREAS, we are forever indebted and deeply grateful for those who have sacrificed their own safety and freedom for our nation.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim September 16, 2016 as:

POW/MIA Recognition Day

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to honor, support, and remember those who were prisoners of war, those presently missing in action, and their loved ones, and I direct that all State agencies in possession of a POW/MIA flag shall fly their POW/MIA flag on September 16, 2016.

Dated: September 2, 2016

Bill Walker, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.