

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 11, 2023

Dear Colleague:

Effective today, the prohibition on use of campaign credit cards and checks to purchase U.S. flags flown over the United States Capitol through Pay.gov will be removed. This change will allow campaigns to purchase flags in the same fashion as any constituent and outside organization consistent with House Rules and regulations. Please see important information below on the use of official and campaign funds to purchase flags.

Use of Campaign Funds

Use of campaign funds to purchase flags is regulated by the Federal Election Commission and the Committee on Ethics. Campaign funds can be used to purchase flags for campaign/political purposes consistent with Federal Election Commission regulations. Per the Committee on Ethics, campaign funds CANNOT be used to purchase flags for official purposes.

Use of Official Funds

Per the *Members' Congressional Handbook* regulations, the MRA may be used to purchase U.S. flags for presentation to honor and recognize constituents for matters of public distinction in connection with official and representational duties. Official recognized acts of public distinction for which the MRA can be used include election or appointment to public office, publicly notable awards and honors, U.S. Citizenship, Eagle Scout/Gold Star, High School graduation, heroism, appointment to a U.S. military academy, Military Service (upon enlistment, promotion, honorable discharge, or to the family of a fallen soldier), Emergency Personnel (upon hiring, promotion, retirement, or to the family of a fallen first responder), Public Education professionals (upon hiring, promotion or retirement) and for the opening of or to be flown at government buildings.

Sincerely,

Bryan Steil, Chairman
Committee on House Administration

Joseph D. Morelle, Ranking Member
Committee on House Administration

Michael Guest, Chairman
Committee on Ethics

Susan Wild, Ranking Member
Committee on Ethics