Introduces 'Honoring Hometown Heroes Act' to Allow the U.S. Flag to be Flown at Half-Staff For Fallen Hometown Heroes

WASHINGTON – **Congressman John Larson (CT-01)** introduced legislation today to allow the American flag to be flown at half-staff in the event of the death of a first responder in the line of duty.

"First responders put their lives on the line to serve their communities on a daily basis and deserve the same recognition as public officials and our brave men and women in the Armed Forces," Congressman Larson said. "These men and women are our friends, family and neighbors. In the event the unthinkable happens, they deserve the respect of having our flag flown at half-staff."

The inspiration for the Honoring Hometown Heroes Act came from Windsor resident Jim McLoughlin who petitioned Congressman Larson to pursue the change to U.S. Code, Title 4, which regulates the use of the American flag. McLoughlin is a Hartford firefighter and is the Founder and Board Chairman of the National Honor Guard Commanders Association.

Currently, the law specifically allows the American Flag to be flown at half-staff following the death of any present or former government official or any member of the Armed Forces.

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