



HR0223

LRB097 11297 KXB 53363 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Vietnam War was fought in Vietnam from 1961 to 1975, and involved North Vietnam and the Viet Cong in conflict with the United States Armed Forces and South Vietnam; and

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WHEREAS, The United States became involved by serving in an advisory role to the South Vietnamese in 1961; and

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WHEREAS, In 1965, United States Armed Forces ground combat units arrived in Vietnam and by the end of that year there were 80,000 United States troops in Vietnam with a peak of approximately 500,000 troops in 1969; and

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WHEREAS, On January 27, 1973, the Treaty of Paris was signed, which required the release of all United States prisoners-of-war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all United States Armed Forces from South Vietnam; by March 30, 1973, the United States Armed Forces completed the withdrawal of combat troops from Vietnam; and

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WHEREAS, More than 58,000 members of the United States Armed Forces lost their lives in Vietnam and more than 300,000 members of the Armed Forces were wounded; and

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WHEREAS, In 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was

1 dedicated in Washington, D.C. to commemorate those members of
2 the United States Armed Forces who died or were declared
3 missing-in-action in Vietnam; and

4 WHEREAS, Members of the United States Armed Forces who
5 served bravely and faithfully for the United States during the
6 Vietnam War were caught upon their return home in the crossfire
7 of public debate about the involvement of the United States in
8 the Vietnam War; and

9 WHEREAS, March 30th marks the anniversary of the day that
10 combat and combat support units withdrew completely from South
11 Vietnam; and

12 WHEREAS, The Ranking Member of the United States Senate
13 Committee on Veterans' Affairs has introduced Senate
14 Resolution 55 before the 112th Congress to honor veterans who
15 served in Vietnam by designating March 30th as "Welcome Home
16 Vietnam Veterans Day"; and

17 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
18 Representatives support the United States Senate in the
19 establishment of a "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" as an
20 appropriate way to honor those members of the United States
21 Armed Forces who served in Vietnam during the Vietnam War; and

1 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
2 Representatives agree that March 30 would be an appropriate day
3 to establish "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" in the State
4 of Illinois; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
7 we proclaim March 30, 2011 and March 30, 2012 as "Welcome Home
8 Vietnam Veterans Day" in the State of Illinois; and be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That all citizens of the State of Illinois are
11 encouraged to honor our Vietnam Veterans.