

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 4

By: Barrington and Ivester of
the Senate

and

Hardin of the House

7 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing March 29, 2013,
8 as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" in Oklahoma;
9 commending and thanking Vietnam veterans for their
10 service and sacrifice; encouraging citizens to
11 participate in "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day"
12 celebrations; and directing distribution.

12 WHEREAS, nine million American soldiers fought in the Vietnam
13 War from 1964 to 1975, including 136,000 Oklahomans; and

14 WHEREAS, more than 50,000 soldiers lost their lives during the
15 war and another 30,000 died after returning home because of wounds
16 or illnesses contracted during combat; and

17 WHEREAS, unlike veterans of previous wars, returning Vietnam
18 veterans were not welcomed by a grateful nation; instead many were
19 ignored or scorned by citizens who wrongly took their anger out on
20 the soldiers rather than leaders who chose to involve American
21 troops in the conflict in Southeast Asia. The psychological issues
22 faced by many Vietnam vets can be traced not simply to what they
23 experienced in Vietnam but to their experience on their return home;
24 and

1 WHEREAS, Americans are belatedly embracing Vietnam veterans
2 having come to the realization that those who served were just as
3 brave and honorable as their fathers and uncles who fought in
4 previous conflicts like World War II and Korea; and

5 WHEREAS, March 29 has been designated as "Welcome Home Vietnam
6 Veterans Day" by Congress in recognition of the day when the last
7 soldiers left Vietnam in 1972; and

8 WHEREAS, there are currently seven million Vietnam veterans
9 living across the country and 52,000 reside in Oklahoma.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
11 OF THE 54TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 CONCURRING THEREIN:

13 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes March 29, 2013,
14 as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" in Oklahoma.

15 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature commends and thanks Vietnam
16 veterans for their tremendous service and sacrifice.

17 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature encourages citizens to
18 participate in "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" celebrations in
19 their area.

20 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Governor,
21 the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of
22 Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the
23 Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs and the Military Department.

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1 Adopted by the Senate the 6th day of March, 2013.

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3 _____
4 Presiding Officer of the Senate

5 Adopted by the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
6 2013.

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8 _____
9 Presiding Officer of the House
10 of Representatives