

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

3 SENATE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 4

By: Barrington

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

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.

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

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

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

1 experienced in Vietnam but to their experience on their return home;
2 and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Governor,
23 the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of

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1 Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the
2 Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs and the Military Department.

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