



MARCH 29<sup>th</sup>  
**VIETNAM VETERANS DAY**  
USA  
A horizontal ribbon with vertical stripes in green, yellow, red, and blue, representing the Vietnam War.  
**COALITION OF STATES COUNCIL**



May 1, 2011

**PETITION FOR LEGISLATION TO THE  
CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Dear Honorable Members of Congress and President Obama:

**Whereas**, thirty eight years ago, on March 29, 1973, the last 2,500 troops were withdrawn from South Vietnam thus ending military involvement in what is now the longest war in our country's history, and

**Whereas**, thirty seven years ago, March 29, 1974 was declared Vietnam Veterans Day by Presidential order with the support of Congress, and

**Whereas**, the 58,195 honorable and brave souls who fought and died during the Vietnam War, ones who are missing, and those who died since from the consequences of that war, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation to be expressed on the **29<sup>th</sup> of March** of every year in perpetuity and dedicated as **Vietnam Veterans Day**, the Official Day of Recognition and

**Whereas**, the men and women who served with dedication, honor, and pride during the Vietnam War, both in country and in support of those in harm's way as well as those protecting our freedoms at home and throughout other parts of the world at that time, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

**Whereas**, the families whose loved ones gave their lives for our country during the Vietnam War, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

**Whereas**, the families of those men and women who came home with the physical and emotional wounds of the Vietnam War and committed to a lifetime of care and support for their loved one, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

**Whereas**, the fellow citizens who stood by and supported the families of the fallen as well as the Vietnam veterans who returned and their families, without reservation and with loving care and respect, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

**Whereas**, those professionals and volunteers who committed themselves to the loving care and healing of the bodily and emotionally wounded from the Vietnam War at home and have already the utmost gratitude of those they cared for and of their families, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

**Whereas**, the men and women of our Allies who served with dedication, honor, and pride alongside our Nation's defenders during the Vietnam War, both in country and in support of those in harm's way as well as those protecting our freedoms and throughout other parts of the world at that time, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

**Whereas**, this expression of gratitude and respect to the Vietnam Veterans and their families will also give hope and assurance, to current and future generations of our Nation's Defenders and their respective families, that their sacrifice and service will not be forgotten and deserving of a distinct recognition of the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

**Whereas**, this expression of gratitude and respect for the honorable sacrifice and service by the Vietnam Veteran, past as well as current and future generations of our nation's defenders and their respective families, needs to remain in the hearts and thoughts of our fellow citizens forever, passed on from generation to generation, and

**Whereas** numerous States have already chosen March 29<sup>th</sup> as Vietnam Veterans Day by Legislation and many more states have joined with individual events to honor and thank these brave Veterans and their families for their service to our Great Country,

**We therefore**, ask the United States House of Representatives to support this request by passage of a standalone Legislation declaring March 29<sup>th</sup> Vietnam Veterans Day in perpetuity and ask the United States Senate to join in the passage of this same standalone Legislation, incorporating the whereas recognitions that are part of this request. We ask the President of the United States to support this legislation. The proposed wording for the legislation follows.

**And** we ask the members of the United States Congress, with President Obama's concurrence, to deliver this long overdue tribute by our nation to those honored in this March 29<sup>th</sup> Vietnam Veterans Day legislation and to have it stand as a distinct symbol of our fellow citizens expression of gratitude, and be a beacon of hope for future defenders of our nation and their families.

We remain forever vigilant and in service to our country, the families who lost a loved one during our wars and since, our veterans and the defenders of our nation as well as their families, our fellow citizens and communities.

Sincerely,



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Dann Dunham, Chairman  
Dann Dunham, Delegate - Tennessee

Clifton D. Hernandez  
Delegate - Alabama

Ric Davidge  
Delegate – Alaska

Rick Beach  
Delegate – California

Frank and Sharon Blackman  
Delegates - Florida

Diane Finnemann  
Delegate - Minnesota

Flo Yost  
Delegate - Mississippi

Esardo Sanchez, Co-chairman  
Delegate - New Mexico

James F. Dugan  
Delegate - New Jersey

Lester Modelowitz  
Delegate - New York

Jim Rosin and Paul Hauke  
Delegates - Ohio

Robert E. Gilbert  
Delegate – Pennsylvania

Thuy Smith  
Delegate - Wisconsin

Rimantas Ray Saikus, Secretary  
Delegate - Ohio



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**\* PROPOSED LEGISLATION \***

On behalf of the citizens of our great nation, the United States of America, and on behalf of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress and the President of United States, this legislation is enacted to be an expression of eternal gratitude and respect to those who served during the Vietnam War Era and to be commemorated as **Vietnam Veterans Day** on the **29<sup>th</sup> of March** of each year in perpetuity.

This Official Day of Recognition will serve as a vivid reminder that:

On March 29, 1973, the last 2,500 troops were withdrawn from South Vietnam thus ending military involvement in what is now the longest war in our country's history, and

March 29, 1974 was declared Vietnam Veterans Day by Presidential order with the support of Congress, and

58,195 honorable and brave souls who fought and died during the Vietnam War, ones who are missing, and those who died since from the consequences of that war, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

The men and women who served with dedication, honor, and pride during the Vietnam War, both in country and in support of those in harm's way as well as those protecting our freedoms at home and throughout other parts of the world at that time, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

The families whose loved ones gave their lives for our country during the Vietnam War, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

The families of those men and women who came home with the physical and emotional wounds of the Vietnam War and committed to a lifetime of care and support for their loved one, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

The fellow citizens who stood by and supported, the families of the fallen as well as the Vietnam veterans who returned and their families without reservation and with loving care and respect, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

The professionals and volunteers who committed themselves to the loving care and healing of the bodily and emotionally wounded from the Vietnam War at home, and have already the utmost gratitude of those they cared for and of their families, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

The men and women of our Allies who served with dedication, honor, and pride alongside our Nation's defenders during the Vietnam War, both in country and in support of those in harm's way as well as those protecting our freedoms and throughout other parts of the world at that time, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

This expression of gratitude and respect to the Vietnam Veterans and their families will also give hope and assurance, to current and future generations of our Nation's Defenders and their respective families, that their sacrifice and service will not be forgotten and deserving of a distinct recognition of the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

And this expression of gratitude and respect for the honorable sacrifice and service by the Vietnam Veterans and past as well as current and future generations of our nation's defenders and their respective families, needs to remain in the hearts and thoughts of our fellow citizens forever, passed on from generation to generation.