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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/24/2011	.	
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	.	

The Committee on Military Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security (Storms) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (v) is added to subsection (1) of section 683.01, Florida Statutes, to read:

683.01 Legal holidays.—

(1) The legal holidays, which are also public holidays, are the following:

(v) The 40th anniversary of the end of United States' involvement in the Vietnam War, March 25, 2013.

Section 2. Section 683.025, Florida Statutes, is created to



13 read:

14 683.025 Vietnam Veterans' Day; 40th anniversary of end of
15 United States' involvement in Vietnam War.-

16 (1) In recognition of the historical significance of the
17 40th anniversary of the end of United States' involvement in the
18 Vietnam War, March 25, 2013, shall be observed as the 40th
19 anniversary of the end of United States' involvement in the
20 Vietnam War. The day shall be suitably observed for the purpose
21 of providing opportunities throughout the state to demonstrate
22 and express appreciation for the honorable service and sacrifice
23 of veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during
24 the Vietnam Era and shall otherwise be suitably observed by such
25 public exercises in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the
26 Governor may designate and as provided by rules of the
27 Department of Veterans' Affairs adopted under s. 292.075.

28 (2) Commencing on March 29, 2014, the Governor shall
29 proclaim March 29 of each year to be "Vietnam Veterans' Day,"
30 which day shall be suitably observed throughout the state as a
31 day honoring the veterans who served in the United States Armed
32 Services during the Vietnam Era, and which day shall otherwise
33 be suitably observed by such public exercises in the State
34 Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor may designate and as
35 provided by rules of the Department of Veterans' Affairs adopted
36 under s. 292.075. If in any calendar year March 29 falls on a
37 day which is not a school day, "Vietnam Veterans' Day" shall be
38 observed in the schools on the school day next preceding or on
39 such preceding day as may be designated by local school
40 authorities.

41 (3) The purpose of Vietnam Veterans' Day is to provide a



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42 proper demonstration of appreciation for the honorable service
43 and sacrifice of veterans who served in the United States Armed
44 Forces during the Vietnam Era.

45 Section 3. Section 292.075, Florida Statutes, is created to
46 read:

47 292.075 Vietnam Veterans' Day; commemoration of 40th
48 anniversary of the end of United States' involvement in the
49 Vietnam War.—

50 (1) The department shall administratively promote and
51 support the efforts of counties, municipalities, and bona fide
52 veterans' organizations that voluntarily hold special community
53 events commemorating:

54 (a) The 40th anniversary of the end of the United States'
55 involvement in the Vietnam War on March 25, 2013, as provided in
56 s. 683.025(1).

57 (b) Vietnam Veterans' Day, commencing on March 29, 2014,
58 and observed on March 29 annually thereafter, as provided in s.
59 683.025(2).

60
61 Such events shall include, but not be limited to, parades or
62 ceremonies held on those dates.

63 (2) The department shall adopt rules for the:

64 (a) Solicitation of private donations to fund grants to
65 counties, municipalities, and bona fide veterans' organizations
66 that voluntarily hold commemorative activities contemplated by
67 this section and s. 683.025 for the purpose of reviewing and
68 making recommendations with respect to such activities and major
69 expenditures of private funds raised in support thereof.

70 (b) Creation of a special volunteer advisory board,



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71 consisting of Vietnam veterans who are residents of the state,
72 for the purpose of reviewing and making recommendations with
73 respect to the activities contemplated by this section and s.
74 683.025 and major expenditures of private funds raised in
75 support thereof.

76 Section 4. Paragraph (aaaa) is added to subsection (4) of
77 section 320.08056, Florida Statutes, to read:

78 320.08056 Specialty license plates.—

79 (4) The following license plate annual use fees shall be
80 collected for the appropriate specialty license plates:

81 (aaaa) Vietnam Veterans license plate, \$25.

82 Section 5. Subsection (79) is added to section 320.08058,
83 Florida Statutes, to read:

84 320.08058 Specialty license plates.—

85 (79) VIETNAM VETERANS LICENSE PLATE.—

86 (a) The department shall develop a Vietnam Veterans license
87 plate as provided in this section. Vietnam Veterans license
88 plates must bear the colors and design approved by the
89 department. The word "Florida" must appear at the top of the
90 plate, and the words "Vietnam Veterans" must appear at the
91 bottom of the plate.

92 (b) The license plate annual use fees must be deposited in
93 the Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund of the Department of
94 Veterans' Affairs. All such moneys are to be administered by the
95 direct-support organization of the Department of Veterans'
96 Affairs created under s. 292.055, the Florida Veterans'
97 Foundation, and must be used solely for the purposes of:

98 1. Funding grants to counties, municipalities, and bona
99 fide veterans' organizations for activities related to the



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100 initial observance of "Vietnam Veterans' Day," on March 25,
101 2013, the 40th anniversary of the end of United States'
102 involvement in the Vietnam War;

103 2. Expenditures related to the annual observance of Vietnam
104 Veterans' Day in years subsequent to 2013; and

105 3. The continuing promotion and marketing of the license
106 plate, subject to the requirements of chapter 216.

107 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.

108
109 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

110 And the title is amended as follows:

111 Delete everything before the enacting clause
112 and insert:

113 A bill to be entitled
114 An act relating to commemoration of the 40th
115 anniversary of the end of the United States'
116 involvement in the Vietnam War; amending s. 683.01,
117 F.S.; designating March 25, 2013, the 40th anniversary
118 of the end of the United States' involvement in the
119 Vietnam War, as a legal holiday; creating s. 683.025,
120 F.S.; designating a date for the observance of the
121 anniversary; providing for the annual observance of
122 "Vietnam Veterans' Day," commencing on a specified
123 date; specifying purpose of the observance; creating
124 s. 292.075, F.S.; requiring the Department of
125 Veterans' Affairs to administratively promote and
126 support the efforts of counties, municipalities, and
127 veterans' organizations that voluntarily hold special
128 community events commemorating the 40th anniversary of



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129 the end of the United States' involvement in the
130 Vietnam War and subsequent observances of Vietnam
131 Veterans' Day; authorizing solicitation of private
132 donations to fund grants to counties, municipalities,
133 and veterans' organizations that voluntarily hold
134 activities in support of such commemoration; providing
135 for rulemaking of the department; providing for the
136 creation of a special volunteer advisory board to the
137 department for the purpose of reviewing and making
138 recommendations with respect to activities and
139 expenditures of private funds raised in support of
140 such commemoration; amending ss. 320.08056 and
141 320.08058, F.S.; creating the Vietnam Veterans license
142 plate; establishing an annual use fee for the plate;
143 providing for the distribution of use fees received
144 from the sale of such plates; providing an effective
145 date.

146
147 WHEREAS, March 29, 2013, marks the 40th anniversary of the
148 end of United States' involvement in the Vietnam War, and

149 WHEREAS, because March 29, 2013, falls on Good Friday, an
150 existing legal holiday, March 25, 2013, has been designated as
151 the date on which the 40th anniversary of the end of the United
152 States' involvement in the Vietnam War is to be commemorated in
153 the State of Florida, and

154 WHEREAS, it is the intent of this act to provide
155 legislative direction and support for recognition of the
156 importance of this event and to ensure the appropriate
157 commemoration of this anniversary and proper demonstration of



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158 appreciation for the honorable service and tremendous sacrifice
159 of veterans who served in the United States Armed Services
160 during the Vietnam Era, NOW, THEREFORE,