

HR 9019

2013

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing March 30, 2013, as "Welcome
3 Home Vietnam Veterans Day."
4

5 WHEREAS, the Vietnam War was fought in Vietnam from 1961 to
6 1975 and involved North Vietnam and the Vietcong in conflict
7 with the United States and South Vietnam, and

8 WHEREAS, the United States became involved in Vietnam,
9 first in an advisory role to the South Vietnamese, because
10 policymakers in the United States believed that if South Vietnam
11 fell to a communist government, communism would spread
12 throughout the rest of Southeast Asia, and

13 WHEREAS, on August 7, 1964, the United States Congress
14 overwhelmingly passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which
15 effectively handed over the war-making powers to President
16 Lyndon Johnson until such time as peace and security had
17 returned to Vietnam, and

18 WHEREAS, in 1965, there were 184,000 United States troops
19 in Vietnam, and by 1969, that number had grown to more than
20 500,000 troops, and

21 WHEREAS, on January 27, 1973, the Treaty of Paris was
22 signed, which required the release of all United States
23 prisoners of war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all
24 United States Armed Forces, and on March 30, 1973, the United
25 States completed the withdrawal of combat troops, and

26 WHEREAS, during the course of the war, more than 58,000
27 members of the United States Armed Forces lost their lives in
28 Vietnam and more than 300,000 were wounded, and

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29 WHEREAS, upon their return home, members of the United
30 States Armed Forces who served bravely and faithfully for the
31 United States during the Vietnam War were caught in the
32 crossfire of public debate about the involvement of the United
33 States in the war, and the issue remained a divisive one for
34 many years, and

35 WHEREAS, it was not until 1982 that the Vietnam Veterans
36 Memorial was dedicated in the District of Columbia to
37 commemorate those members of the United States Armed Forces who
38 died or were declared missing in action in Vietnam, and

39 WHEREAS, "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" is an
40 appropriate way to honor those members of the United States
41 Armed Forces who served in Vietnam during the Vietnam War, NOW,
42 THEREFORE,

43
44 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
45 Florida:

46
47 That March 30, 2013, is recognized as "Welcome Home Vietnam
48 Veterans Day."