

HR 8099

2025

House Resolution

A resolution recognizing August 10, 2025, as "Agent Orange Awareness Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, our nation was founded by individuals willing to sacrifice their personal safety to ensure our collective freedom, and the Sunshine State is proud to be home to many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty, and

WHEREAS, throughout history, United States citizens have been called upon to take up arms against the enemies of this great nation, risking their lives and leaving their loved ones behind to honorably safeguard the freedoms and liberties guaranteed to all Americans, and

WHEREAS, more than eight million Americans honorably served during the Vietnam War, during which time Agent Orange was widely used by the United States Armed Forces as part of the herbicidal warfare program, Operation Ranch Hand, from 1962 through 1971, and

WHEREAS, Florida is home to more than 462,000 Vietnam-era veterans, and

WHEREAS, nearly 11 million gallons of Agent Orange were sprayed over Vietnam from helicopters and aircraft, destroying vegetation and crops to deprive enemy forces of food and cover,

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25 | thereby exposing approximately 2.6 million American soldiers to
26 | this herbicide and defoliant chemical, and

27 | WHEREAS, Agent Orange is a dioxin and cancer-causing
28 | chemical that enters the body through physical contact or
29 | ingestion, attacks human genes, and causes numerous serious
30 | illnesses, including various forms of cancer, heart disease, and
31 | other debilitating conditions, and

32 | WHEREAS, Agent Orange exposure has also resulted in genetic
33 | damage, with some children and grandchildren of exposed veterans
34 | born with spina bifida and other abnormalities, and

35 | WHEREAS, today, only 800,000 Vietnam veterans exposed to
36 | Agent Orange are alive, with approximately 300 deaths occurring
37 | among them every day, NOW, THEREFORE,

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39 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
40 | Florida:

41 |
42 | That August 10, 2025, is recognized as "Agent Orange
43 | Awareness Day" in Florida.

44 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
45 | presented to the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs and the
46 | United States Department of Veterans Affairs as a tangible token
47 | of the sentiments expressed herein.