



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 24-1016

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Willford and Armagost, Amabile, Bacon, Bird, Bottoms, Bradfield, Bradley, Brown, Clifford, Daugherty, DeGraaf, deGruy Kennedy, Duran, English, Epps, Evans, Frizell, Froelich, Garcia, Hamrick, Hartsook, Jodeh, Joseph, Kipp, Lieder, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Lukens, Lynch, Mabrey, Marshall, Martinez, Marvin, Mauro, McCormick, McLachlan, Ortiz, Parenti, Pugliese, Ricks, Rutinel, Sirota, Snyder, Soper, Story, Taggart, Titone, Valdez, Velasco, Vigil, Weinberg, Weissman, Wilson, Winter T., Woodrow, Young, McCluskie;

also SENATOR(S) Kirkmeyer and Buckner, Baisley, Bridges, Coleman, Cutter, Exum, Fields, Gardner, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Hinrichsen, Jaquez Lewis, Kolker, Liston, Lundeen, Marchman, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Pelton B., Pelton R., Priola, Rich, Roberts, Rodriguez, Simpson, Smallwood, Van Winkle, Will, Zenzinger, Fenberg.

CONCERNING RECOGNITION AND REMEMBRANCE OF COLORADO MILITARY VETERANS WHO SERVED IN THE VIETNAM WAR.

WHEREAS, United States military involvement in the Vietnam War began in South Vietnam in 1964 and continued throughout the region until 1975, involving North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong guerrilla forces in armed conflict with United States Armed Forces and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, During this period, more than 2.7 million American soldiers, both volunteers and draftees, served tours of duty in Vietnam, with a total of more than 9 million active duty military personnel, in what was an extremely long, difficult, and complex war; and

WHEREAS, More than 58,220 members of the United States Armed Forces, including 623 Coloradans, lost their lives in the Vietnam War, and more than 300,000 members of the United States Armed Forces were wounded; in addition, more than 1,500 members of the United States Armed Forces are listed as prisoners of war or missing in action in the Vietnam War and remain unaccounted for, including 24 Coloradans; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, more than 6 million veterans of the United States Armed Forces who served during the Vietnam era are still alive today, including, as of 2020, more than 117,000 Coloradans; and

WHEREAS, Formal acknowledgment of Vietnam War veterans is as important now as ever, not only for the veterans who served but for all citizens; bipartisan legislation signed in 2017 permanently enshrines March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day; and

WHEREAS, April 30, 2024, marks the 49th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-fourth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, hereby:

(1) Honor the service and sacrifices of Colorado military veterans who served in the Vietnam War alongside South Vietnamese soldiers;

(2) Recognize the challenges faced by many veterans, both while serving in the Vietnam War and upon returning home;

(3) Express our appreciation for the fortitude of Colorado veterans; their activism on behalf of fellow veterans; their patriotism; their accomplishments and contributions; and the leadership they have shown their families, community organizations, and the state; and

(4) Encourage all Coloradans to remember the sacrifices made by Vietnam War veterans.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to Brig. Gen. Laura Clellan, the Adjutant General of Colorado, Executive Director of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; the United Veterans Coalition of Colorado; Project Sanctuary; the President of the United States Joseph R. Biden, Jr.; the honorable Jared Polis, Governor of Colorado; and each member of Colorado's Congressional delegation.

Julie McCluskie
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Steve Fenberg
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Robin Jones
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Cindi L. Markwell
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE