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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 48

Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY VULAKOVICH, ALLOWAY, ARGALL, BAKER, BREWSTER,  
COSTA, DINNIMAN, EICHELBERGER, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, HAYWOOD,  
KITCHEN, PILEGGI, TEPLITZ, TOMLINSON, WARD, WHITE AND WILEY,  
MARCH 3, 2015

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MARCH 3, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 30, 2015, as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans  
2 Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The Vietnam Conflict was fought in Vietnam from 1961  
4 to 1975, and it involved North Vietnam and the Viet Cong in  
5 conflict with the United States and South Vietnam; and

6 WHEREAS, The United States became involved in the Vietnam  
7 Conflict because policymakers in the United States believed that  
8 if South Vietnam fell to a communist government then communism  
9 would spread throughout the rest of Southeast Asia; and

10 WHEREAS, Members of the United States Armed Forces began  
11 serving in an advisory role to South Vietnam in 1961; and

12 WHEREAS, As a result of the Gulf of Tonkin incidents on  
13 August 2 and 4, 1964, the Congress of the United States  
14 overwhelmingly passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (Public Law  
15 88-408) on August 7, 1964, which effectively handed over war-  
16 making powers to President Lyndon B. Johnson until such time as  
17 peace and security had returned to Vietnam; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1965, United States Armed Forces ground combat  
2 units arrived in Vietnam; and

3 WHEREAS, By the end of 1965, there were 80,000 United States  
4 troops in Vietnam and, by 1969, a peak of approximately 543,000  
5 troops was reached; and

6 WHEREAS, On January 27, 1973, the Paris Peace Accords were  
7 signed, which required the release of all United States  
8 prisoners of war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all  
9 United States Armed Forces from South Vietnam; and

10 WHEREAS, On March 30, 1973, the United States Armed Forces  
11 completed the withdrawal of combat troops from Vietnam; and

12 WHEREAS, More than 58,000 members of the United States Armed  
13 Forces lost their lives in Vietnam, and more than 300,000  
14 members were wounded; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated  
16 in the District of Columbia to commemorate those members of the  
17 United States Armed Forces who died or were declared missing in  
18 action in Vietnam; and

19 WHEREAS, The Vietnam Conflict was an extremely divisive issue  
20 among the people of the United States; and

21 WHEREAS, Members of the United States Armed Forces who served  
22 bravely and faithfully for the United States during the Vietnam  
23 Conflict were caught upon their return home in the crossfire of  
24 public debate about the involvement of the United States in the  
25 Vietnam Conflict; and

26 WHEREAS, The establishment of Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans  
27 Day would be an appropriate way to honor those members of the  
28 United States Armed Forces who served in Vietnam during the  
29 Vietnam Conflict; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize March 30, 2015, as

1 "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" in Pennsylvania.