

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 263 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY MENSCH, GORDNER, AUMENT, BROWNE, MARTIN, PHILLIPS-
HILL, LANGERHOLC, COSTA, STREET, SCHWANK, IOVINO, LEACH,
FARNESE, DINNIMAN, BREWSTER, HUGHES, MASTRIANO, J. WARD,
TARTAGLIONE, BLAKE, BARTOLOTTA, YUDICHAK, PITTMAN, K. WARD,
KILLION AND BAKER, OCTOBER 29, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 29, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Korean and Korean-American Vietnam War veterans for
2 their service to the United States during the Vietnam War.

3 WHEREAS, Korean and Korean-American Vietnam War veterans
4 served honorably throughout the conflict, fighting valiantly
5 both in and alongside the United States Armed Forces, often
6 making the ultimate sacrifice, with many later becoming United
7 States citizens; and

8 WHEREAS, The United States holds freedom, democracy and self-
9 determination as its highest ideals; and

10 WHEREAS, The alliance forged between the United States and
11 the Republic of Korea traces back to the Korean War; and

12 WHEREAS, During the Vietnam War, nearly 3,000,000 members of
13 the United States Armed Forces fought bravely to preserve and
14 defend these ideals, among them many Korean Americans who earned
15 citations for their heroism and honorable service; and

16 WHEREAS, A minimum of 58,193 members of the United States

Armed Forces were killed, more than 300,000 were wounded and approximately 2,000 are still missing in action; and

WHEREAS, The Republic of Korea joined the Vietnam War to support the United States Armed Forces and the cause of freedom at the request of the United States; and

WHEREAS, From 1964 until the last soldier left Saigon on March 23, 1973, the second largest contribution of troops sent by an ally of the United States consisted of 325,517 members of the Republic of Korea's Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, The Republic of Korea forces fought bravely throughout the theater and were known for their dedication, tenacity and effectiveness on the battlefield; and

WHEREAS, In addition to those Korean Americans who served in the United States Armed Forces during the Vietnam War, some of whom gave their lives for their country, 5,099 Republic of Korea troops were killed and 10,962 were injured, many in defense of the United States and its friends and allies; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that thousands of veterans of the Vietnam War who fought for the cause of the United States under the flag of the Republic of Korea currently reside in the United States and that most of them have become United States citizens; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that 20% of Korean veterans of the Vietnam War suffer from significant injuries, including post-traumatic stress disorder, total disability and the effects of the toxic defoliant Agent Orange; and

WHEREAS, Korean-American veterans of the Vietnam War upheld the highest ideals of the United States through their dedicated service and considerable sacrifices, with many continuing to carry the visible and invisible wounds of war to this day;

1 therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
3 commend Korean and Korean-American veterans of the Vietnam War
4 for their service to the United States; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be presented to the
6 Korean-American Veterans of the Vietnam War of Pennsylvania as
7 an expression of the abiding gratitude of this Commonwealth for
8 the service and sacrifices made by Korean-American veterans of
9 the Vietnam War in defense of freedom and democracy.