THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 50   Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY LONGIETTI, MENSCH, SIPTROTH, ADOLPH, BAKER,
    BELFANTI, BEYER, BISHOP, BOBACK, BOYLE, BRENNAN, BROOKS,
    BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, CLYMER, COHEN, D. COSTA,
    DELOZIER, DeLUCA, DePASQUALE, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI,
    FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GABLER,
    GALLOWAY, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GODSHALL,
    GOODMAN, GRELL, GROVE, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARHART, HARKINS,
    HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS, HORNAMAN, KAUFFMAN, M. KELLER,
    W. KELLER, KESSLER, KILLION, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, LEVDANSKY,
    MANN, MARSICO, McCALL, McGEEHAN, McILVAINE SMITH, MICOZZIE,
    MILLARD, MOUL, MUNDY, MUSTIO, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PALLONE,
    PAYNE, PEIFER, PETRARCA, PETRI, PICKETT, PRESTON, PYLE,
    QUIGLEY, QUINN, RAPP, READSHAW, ROEBUCK, ROHRER, ROSS,
    SABATINA, SAINATO, SANTARSIERO, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO,
    SEIP, SHAPIRO, SOLOBAY, STABACK, STEVENSON, SWANGER,
    R. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TRUE, VULAKOVICH, WALKO, WATSON, WHEATLEY,
    WHITE, YOUNGBLOOD, CONKLIN, BEAR, DEASY, HARRIS, ROAE,
    KIRKLAND, BENNINGHOFF, TALLMAN, REICHLEY, SONNEY, STERN,
    BROWN, DALLY, MAJOR, HICKERNELL, MELIO, K. SMITH, OBERLANDER,
    EVERETT AND MURT, FEBRUARY 9, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
    FEBRUARY 9, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating March 30, 2009, as "Vietnam Veterans Day" in
2   Pennsylvania and May 25, 2009, as "Fallen Heroes of the
3   Vietnam War Day" in Pennsylvania to recognize the selfless
4   service and supreme sacrifice of Vietnam veterans.

5   WHEREAS, The names of 58,256 casualties are inscribed on the

6 Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, referred to as The

7 Wall; and

8   WHEREAS, The Wall memorializes Vietnam combat zone casualties

9 and casualties incurred outside combat zones, including

1 servicepersons who died in support of combat missions and

2 servicepersons who subsequently died of wounds sustained in

3 Vietnam; and

4 WHEREAS, The first known casualty among United States

5 military personnel dates to June 8, 1956; and

6 WHEREAS, Military losses in southeast Asia from this

7 Commonwealth total 3,142; and

8 WHEREAS, Native sons who gave their lives in the line of duty

9 in Vietnam include 1,870 Army casualties, 152 Navy casualties,

10 148 Air Force casualties and 972 Marine casualties; and

11 WHEREAS, More than 300,000 armed forces members were wounded

12 while fighting in Vietnam; and

13 WHEREAS, On January 27, 1973, the Paris Peace Accords were

14 signed, which required the release of all United States

15 prisoners of war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all

16 United States Armed Forces from South Vietnam; and

17 WHEREAS, On March 30, 1973, the United States Armed Forces

18 completed the withdrawal of combat troops from Vietnam; and

19 WHEREAS, The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel

20 Office continues to identify and repatriate the remains of

21 Vietnam-era servicepersons for interment by their loved ones;

22 and

23 WHEREAS, On May 25, 2009, communities across Pennsylvania and

24 the United States of America will pay tribute to those men and

25 women who gave their lives in the line of duty in the various

26 wars and conflicts engaged in by our military, including those

27 Fallen Heroes who served and died during the Vietnam War; and

28 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives commemorates the

29 heroism of Vietnam servicepersons who, in an escalating and

30 controversial commitment under six presidents, displayed strong

1 tactical skills and survival skills; and

2   WHEREAS, The House of Representatives commemorates the common

3 bond of these servicepersons, who endured, according to Jeane

4 Kirkpatrick in 1979, "conditions of guerrilla war"; and

5   WHEREAS, The House of Representatives commemorates the

6 unparalleled endeavors of all fallen, lost and injured troops

7 and all in-country veterans who fought honorably when called

8 upon and who returned to a besieged nation; therefore be it

9   RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives, with all due

10 thanks, designate March 30, 2009, as "Vietnam Veterans Day" in

11 Pennsylvania and May 25, 2009, as "Fallen Heroes of the Vietnam

12 War Day" in Pennsylvania to recognize the selfless service and

13 supreme sacrifice of Vietnam veterans.