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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 574 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY EVANKOVICH, READSHAW, BENNINGHOFF, VEREB, NEILSON, R. MILLER, LUCAS, SIMMONS, MURT, DIGIROLAMO, KAUFFMAN, DeLUCA, MARSHALL, SAYLOR, SACCONI, DONATUCCI, RAPP, LONGIETTI, SCHLEGEL CULVER, V. BROWN, PICKETT, KIRKLAND, STEVENSON, TALLMAN, BIZZARRO, HENNESSEY, CUTLER, WHITE, MICOZZIE, C. HARRIS, GROVE, MILLARD, MCNEILL, MARSICO, FLECK, SABATINA, COHEN, BROWNLEE, SONNEY, SANKEY, M. K. KELLER, KNOWLES, R. BROWN, MIRABITO, MCGEEHAN, CAUSER, GILLEN, ROZZI, WATSON, P. DALEY, J. HARRIS, O'BRIEN, FRANKEL, B. BOYLE, MENTZER, BROOKS, GINGRICH, MUSTIO, COX, CLYMER, O'NEILL, ADOLPH, PAYNE, KORTZ, AUMENT, MAJOR, CORBIN, HARHART, HAHN, SCHLOSSBERG, MULLERY, CONKLIN, SWANGER, ENGLISH, D. COSTA, HICKERNELL, DEASY, YOUNGBLOOD, K. BOYLE, JAMES, ROEBUCK, DEAN, BOBACK, EVERETT, KAVULICH, KULA, BAKER, MAHONEY, FARINA, HARHAI, GIBBONS, GRELL, OBERLANDER, GOODMAN, ROSS, PEIFER, FLYNN, TOBASH, CALTAGIRONE AND PETRI, DECEMBER 9, 2013

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
DECEMBER 9, 2013

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 30, 2014, 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

1 serving in an advisory role to South Vietnam in 1961; and  
2 WHEREAS, As a result of the Gulf of Tonkin incidents on  
3 August 2 and 4, 1964, the Congress of the United States  
4 overwhelmingly passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (Public Law  
5 88-408) on August 7, 1964, which effectively handed over war-  
6 making powers to President Lyndon B. Johnson until such time as  
7 peace and security had returned to Vietnam; and

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

10 WHEREAS, By the end of 1965, there were 80,000 United States  
11 troops in Vietnam and by 1969, a peak of approximately 543,000  
12 troops was reached; 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, More than 58,000 members of the United States Armed  
20 Forces lost their lives in Vietnam, and more than 300,000  
21 members were wounded; and

22 WHEREAS, In 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated  
23 in the District of Columbia to commemorate those members of the  
24 United States Armed Forces who died or were declared missing in  
25 action in Vietnam; and

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

28 WHEREAS, Members of the United States Armed Forces who served  
29 bravely and faithfully for the United States during the Vietnam  
30 Conflict were caught upon their return home in the crossfire of

1 public debate about the involvement of the United States in the  
2 Vietnam Conflict; and

3 WHEREAS, The establishment of "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans  
4 Day" would be an appropriate way to honor those members of the  
5 United States Armed Forces who served in Vietnam during the  
6 Vietnam Conflict; therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize and  
8 proclaim March 30, 2014, as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day"  
9 in Pennsylvania.