

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 170 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY RAPP, RYAN, READSHAW, BARRAR, MURT, JAMES, DIGIROLAMO, ROTHMAN, STAATS, GOODMAN, LONGIETTI, HILL-EVANS, KORTZ, DONATUCCI, T. DAVIS, MILLARD, BURNS, PICKETT, MACKENZIE, SONNEY, HICKERNELL, OBERLANDER, BERNSTINE, HARKINS, OWLETT, GAYDOS, FEE, MATZIE, BOROWICZ, COX, HENNESSEY, SCHMITT, KAUFFMAN, NEILSON, MENTZER, CAUSER, PYLE, B. MILLER, MARSHALL, FREEMAN, CIRESI, DEASY, MASSER, MARKOSEK, MULLINS, SAINATO, BROWN, SCHLEGEL CULVER AND SAYLOR, MARCH 25, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH 25, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 30, 2019, 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

1 88-408) on August 7, 1964, which effectively handed over war-
2 making powers to President Lyndon B. Johnson until such time as
3 peace and security had returned to Vietnam; and

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

6 WHEREAS, By the end of 1965, there were 184,300 United States
7 troops in Vietnam and, by 1968, a peak of approximately 536,100
8 troops was reached; and

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

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

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

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

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

24 WHEREAS, Upon their return home, members of the United States
25 Armed Forces who served bravely and faithfully during the
26 Vietnam Conflict were caught in the crossfire of public debate
27 about the involvement of the United States in the Vietnam
28 Conflict; and

29 WHEREAS, The establishment of "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans
30 Day" is an appropriate way to honor those members of the United

1 States Armed Forces who served in Vietnam during the Vietnam
2 Conflict; therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize and
4 proclaim March 30, 2019, as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day"
5 in Pennsylvania.