

RESOLUTION  
TO CITY CLERK FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO BE POSTED

#62  
MAR 28 2008

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War was fought in Vietnam from 1961 to 1975, and involved North Vietnam and the Viet Cong in conflict with United States Armed Forces and South Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, the United States became involved in Vietnam because policy-makers in the United States believed that if South Vietnam fell to a Communist government then Communism would spread throughout the rest of Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, members of the United States Armed Forces began serving in an advisory role to the South Vietnamese in 1961; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the Gulf of Tonkin incidents on August 2 and 4, 1964, Congress overwhelmingly passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (Public Law 88-408), on August 7, 1964, which effectively handed over war-making powers to President Johnson until such time as 'peace and security' had returned to Vietnam; and

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

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

WHEREAS, on January 27, 1973, the Treaty of Paris was signed, which required the release of all United States prisoners-of-war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all United States Armed Forces from South Vietnam; and

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War was an extremely divisive issue among the people of the United States; and

WHEREAS, members of the United States Armed Forces who served bravely and faithfully for the United States during the Vietnam War were caught upon their return home in the crossfire of public debate about the involvement of the United States in the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, Congress has passed a bill, H. Res. 189 (Sanchez), which would establish a nationally recognized holiday to honor Vietnam veterans; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a 'Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day' would be an appropriate way to honor those members of the United States Armed Forces who served in Vietnam during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, March 30 would be an appropriate day to establish as 'Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day;'

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Los Angeles hereby declares March 30, 2008 as 'Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day' in the City of Los Angeles to honor those members of the United States Armed Forces who served in Vietnam.

08-0757

Wb

PRESENTED BY: Tony Cardenas  
TONY CARDENAS  
Councilman, 6<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: Bernard C. Loh