

By: Isett

H.C.R. No. 269

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The year 2009 marks the 20th anniversary of the
2 founding of the Vietnam Center and Archive at Texas Tech University
3 in Lubbock, and this milestone offers a welcome opportunity to
4 honor this respected institution; and

5 WHEREAS, Established by the university's board of regents in
6 1989, the Vietnam Center and Archive is dedicated to promoting
7 research and education on all aspects of the American Vietnam
8 experience and to promoting greater understanding of the peoples
9 and cultures of Southeast Asia; and

10 WHEREAS, To carry out this mission, the center collects and
11 preserves pertinent source material and educates the public through
12 exhibits, classroom instruction, and educational programs;
13 moreover, scholarly research on the Vietnam War and related events
14 is encouraged through the presentation of the center's highly
15 regarded symposia and conferences, the sponsorship of exchange
16 programs, and the publication of material to further knowledge of
17 the subject; and

18 WHEREAS, The effort to establish the Vietnam Center and
19 Archive began when local Vietnam veterans discussed creating an
20 archive to be used by Texas Tech students; through the years, the
21 contributions of numerous other individuals have allowed this
22 institution to develop into a renowned resource for scholarship and
23 education; and

24 WHEREAS, Key to the success of the center have been valuable

1 donations of materials from individuals such as Ambassador William
2 Colby and Professor Douglas Pike, who served as the center's senior
3 research fellow from 1997 until his death in 2002; in addition, the
4 Vietnam Center has received assured guidance from its directors,
5 Dr. James Reckner and Dr. Stephen Maxner, as well as Dr. Dennis
6 Patterson, who succeeded Dr. Reckner as executive director of the
7 Institute for Modern Conflict, Diplomacy, and Reconciliation in
8 2009; and

9 WHEREAS, The involvement of the United States in Southeast
10 Asia from the 1950s through the 1970s stands as a defining episode
11 in our nation's history and one with great implications for the
12 future, and for two decades the Texas Tech Vietnam Center and
13 Archive has played a central role in the ongoing study of the war
14 and its legacy; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
16 hereby commemorate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the
17 Vietnam Center and Archive at Texas Tech University and extend all
18 those associated with the institution sincere best wishes for
19 continued success; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for the center as an expression of high regard by the Texas
22 House of Representatives and Senate.