

By: Pena

H.R. No. 380

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, April 9, 2011, is being celebrated as Welcome Home
2 South Texas Vietnam Veterans Day and is being commemorated at the
3 Landing Zone For Troops in the Rio Grande Valley (LZ:RGV), an
4 all-day series of events designed to acknowledge and thank veterans
5 of the Vietnam War; and

6 WHEREAS, The conflict in Southeast Asia was a divisive time
7 in our nation's history, and Vietnam veterans often returned home
8 to little fanfare; due to the controversy surrounding the war, they
9 rarely received the gratitude and respect they deserved; the LZ:RGV
10 is intended to correct that lack of recognition and to officially
11 welcome a number of Vietnam veterans back home to South Texas; and

12 WHEREAS, Communities from across the Rio Grande Valley have
13 united in support of the LZ:RGV, and many organizations and
14 individuals are working to make it a success; sponsors include the
15 American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Veterans
16 Alliance of the Rio Grande Valley, the *Rio Grande Guardian*, *The*
17 *Monitor*, the City of McAllen, the City of Edinburg, Total Imaging
18 Solutions, Entravision Communications Corporation, and Hidalgo
19 County Judge Ramon Garcia; and

20 WHEREAS, The celebration is being held at the McAllen
21 Convention Center, which was offered at no charge for the event, and
22 up to 15,000 people are expected to attend; beginning with a
23 dedication ceremony at the Veterans War Memorial of Texas, adjacent
24 to the convention center, the program for the LZ:RGV includes

1 exhibits, documentaries, and speakers; in the evening, a salute to
2 veterans is being featured, followed by a closing concert; and

3 WHEREAS, Of the 2.59 million Americans who answered their
4 nation's call to duty during the Vietnam War, more than 58,000
5 sacrificed their lives, among them 3,400 Texans; many more
6 thousands of military personnel were wounded, with 75,000 severely
7 disabled; in addition, a large number of men were held as POWs, and
8 today, approximately 2,000 Americans who served in the war remain
9 missing; and

10 WHEREAS, Brave and steadfast during one of the most difficult
11 conflicts in this nation's history, Vietnam War veterans are worthy
12 of our utmost respect and appreciation, and this extensive
13 celebration justly honors their courageous efforts; now,
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
16 Legislature hereby recognize April 9, 2011, as Welcome Home South
17 Texas Vietnam Veterans Day and pay tribute to those area Texans who
18 served their country during the Vietnam War.