

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Americans have served courageously in every war they
2 have been summoned to fight, and those who saw duty in Southeast
3 Asia during the Vietnam War are deserving of acknowledgment for
4 their steadfast efforts during that long and difficult conflict;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, After France withdrew from Vietnam in 1954, the
7 United States moved to support the creation of an anti-Communist
8 government in the southern part of the country; along with sending
9 military aid, the United States also sent advisors to help train the
10 South Vietnamese Army; in 1959, two such advisors became the first
11 American military personnel to be killed in Vietnam when they died
12 at the hands of Communist guerillas; and

13 WHEREAS, Two years later, in May 1961, President John F.
14 Kennedy sent the first Green Beret advisors to South Vietnam to
15 assist its army in developing a counterinsurgency capability; by
16 the end of 1964, the number of American advisors in South Vietnam
17 had grown to 23,000; and

18 WHEREAS, In August 1964, Congress passed the Gulf of Tonkin
19 Resolution, giving the president of the United States broad powers
20 to wage war; early the next year, the Vietcong launched a series of
21 attacks throughout South Vietnam; in response to the deteriorating
22 situation, 3,500 U.S. Marines were dispatched to that country, the
23 first American ground combat troops to be deployed there; at the
24 same time, the United States began an intensive bombing campaign

1 against North Vietnam; and

2 WHEREAS, The number of U.S. troops in Vietnam continued to
3 rise until it peaked at 543,400 in 1969; by that time, the number of
4 Americans killed in the struggle surpassed the number of Americans
5 lost in the Korean War; the United States fought on in Vietnam until
6 the signing of the Paris Peace Accords on January 27, 1973; two
7 months later, on March 29, the last American troops in Vietnam
8 withdrew from the country; and

9 WHEREAS, In addition to ending American military involvement
10 in Vietnam, the peace agreement provided for the exchange of
11 prisoners; during the war, most American POWs were held at camps in
12 North Vietnam, but some were imprisoned in South Vietnam, Laos,
13 Cambodia, and China; Operation Homecoming, the repatriation effort
14 mounted by the United States, returned 566 military personnel and
15 25 civilians over the course of February and March 1973; today,
16 approximately 1,700 Americans remain unaccounted for, most of whom
17 are presumed or known to have died; and

18 WHEREAS, Altogether, 3.4 million members of the U.S. military
19 served in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War, and nearly 2.6
20 million saw duty in South Vietnam itself; more than 58,000 American
21 service members, including nearly 3,500 from Texas, lost their
22 lives in the war, and over 150,000 were seriously injured; and

23 WHEREAS, The men and women who served this country in the
24 Vietnam War, including those veterans who are members of the Texas
25 House of Representatives, are deserving of their fellow citizens'
26 deep respect and gratitude, and it is indeed fitting that a special
27 day be set aside to honor their bravery, their devotion to duty, and

H.R. No. 840

1 their immeasurable sacrifice; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
3 Legislature hereby recognize March 29, 2011, as Vietnam Veterans
4 Day in the State of Texas and encourage all citizens of the Lone
5 Star State to join in observing this solemn day of tribute and
6 commemoration.

Smith of Harris
Berman
Zedler
Farias
White
Price

Straus	Gonzales of Williamson	Morrison
Aliseda	Gonzalez	Munoz, Jr.
Allen	Gooden	Murphy
Alonzo	Guillen	Naishtat
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Nash
Anchia	Hamilton	Oliveira
Anderson of Dallas	Hancock	Orr
Anderson of McLennan	Hardcastle	Otto
Aycock	Harless	Parker
Beck	Harper-Brown	Patrick
Berman	Hartnett	Paxton
Bohac	Hernandez Luna	Pena
Bonnen	Hilderbran	Perry
Branch	Hochberg	Phillips
Brown	Hopson	Pickett
Burkett	Howard of Fort Bend	Pitts
Burnam	Howard of Travis	Price
Button	Huberty	Quintanilla
Cain	Hughes	Raymond
Callegari	Hunter	Reynolds
Carter	Isaac	Riddle
Castro	Jackson	Ritter
Chisum	Johnson	Rodriguez
Christian	Keffer	Schwertner
Coleman	King of Parker	Scott
Cook	King of Taylor	Sheets
Craddick	King of Zavala	Sheffield
Creighton	Kleinschmidt	Shelton
Crownover	Kolkhorst	Simpson
Darby	Kuempel	Smith of Harris
Davis of Dallas	Landtroop	Smith of Tarrant
J. Davis of Harris	Larson	Smithee
S. Davis of Harris	Laubenberg	Solomons
Deshotel	Lavender	Strama
Driver	Legler	Taylor of Collin
Dukes	Lewis	Taylor of Galveston
Dutton	Lozano	Thompson
Eiland	Lucio III	Torres
Eissler	Lyne	Truitt
Elkins	Madden	Turner
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Margo	Villarreal
Fletcher	Marquez	Vo
Flynn	Martinez	Walle
Frullo	Martinez Fischer	Weber
Gallego	McClendon	White
Garza	Menendez	Woolley
Geren	Miles	Workman
Giddings	Miller of Comal	Zedler
Gonzales of Hidalgo	Miller of Erath	Zerwas

H.R. No. 840

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 840 was adopted by the House on March 29, 2011, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House