

By: Vo

H.C.R. No. 113

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, After the Vietnam War ended, a large number of  
2 Vietnamese refugees immigrated to the United States, and many moved  
3 to the metropolitan areas and coastal regions of Texas; and

4 WHEREAS, These first-generation Vietnamese Americans worked  
5 hard and flourished in Texas, and now the state is home to the  
6 second largest Vietnamese population in the United States, with  
7 more than 210,000 residents, nearly half of those living in the  
8 Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown area; and

9 WHEREAS, Vietnamese Americans have fully embraced the  
10 freedoms of speech and religion and all of the democratic  
11 principles that the United States offers; and

12 WHEREAS, Vietnamese Americans have denied the authority of  
13 the Vietnamese Communist Flag and pushed for governments to  
14 officially recognize the Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag,  
15 which symbolizes both the Vietnamese cultural heritage and a deeply  
16 rooted resilience and yearning for democracy; and

17 WHEREAS, Vietnamese Americans strongly support education,  
18 and their children are graduating from high schools and higher  
19 education institutions at high rates; and

20 WHEREAS, The Lone Star State has benefited enormously from  
21 the contributions of its Vietnamese American residents; and

22 WHEREAS, The Vietnamese American community plays a vital role  
23 in the business, professional, and cultural life not only of the  
24 Lone Star State but also of the country; the number of small

1 businesses owned by Vietnamese Americans has grown substantially,  
2 and these firms have created more than 166,000 jobs nationwide,  
3 adding billions of dollars to the economy; in addition, Vietnamese  
4 Americans contribute to their communities in a myriad of ways, as  
5 teachers, lawyers, writers, actors, doctors, mayors, judges, and  
6 public servants; among the many Vietnamese Americans who have led  
7 notable careers are astronaut Eugene H. Trinh, former Dallas Cowboy  
8 Dat Nguyen, and scientist Nguyet Anh Duong, who developed the  
9 thermobaric weapon, which has been vital to U.S. military efforts;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Under Chapter 443, Government Code, and rules of the  
12 State Preservation Board, a portion of the north Capitol grounds is  
13 available for new monuments, subject to legislative approval,  
14 specified procedural requirements, the provision of funding from  
15 private donors, conformity to a certain size and design limitations  
16 and parameters, and completion on a timely basis; and

17 WHEREAS, For many decades, people of Vietnamese descent have  
18 excelled in our society and economy, enriched our cultural  
19 tapestry, and helped enhance and secure the Lone Star State's  
20 reputation as a land of promise and possibility, and members of the  
21 house of representatives and senate find a commemorative structure  
22 in honor of Vietnamese Americans to be a worthy addition to the  
23 Capitol grounds; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas  
25 hereby authorize the State Preservation Board, subject to state law  
26 and rules of the board, to approve and permit the construction of a  
27 monument on the Capitol grounds recognizing Vietnamese Americans

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1 for their contributions to this state and nation; and, be it further

2       RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward an

3 official copy of this resolution to the executive director of the

4 State Preservation Board.