

By: King of Taylor

H.R. No. 3334

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The year 2015 marks the 40th anniversary of the end  
2 of the war in Vietnam, and this occasion provides a fitting  
3 opportunity to honor the members of the Texas House of  
4 Representatives who served their country in the U.S. armed forces  
5 during that conflict; and

6           WHEREAS, American military involvement in Vietnam began in  
7 the 1950s, amid growing fears of Communist expansionism; following  
8 the division of Vietnam in 1954, U.S. military aid to South Vietnam  
9 increased significantly, and in 1965, the first American ground  
10 troops landed in that country; more than 2.5 million members of the  
11 U.S. military served in Vietnam before the last American combat  
12 troops were withdrawn in March 1973; in April 1975, the final  
13 remaining U.S. troops, whose mission had been to guard  
14 U.S. installations, were evacuated; and

15           WHEREAS, Among those who completed tours of duty in country  
16 during the Vietnam War were State Representatives Wayne Smith, Joe  
17 Farias, Dan Flynn, and Bill Zedler, and among those who served in  
18 the military during the Vietnam era were State Representatives  
19 Jimmie Don Aycock, Charles "Doc" Anderson, John Raney, and Paul  
20 Workman; and

21           WHEREAS, The ranks of those killed or classified as missing  
22 in action in the Vietnam War included 3,417 Texans; although there  
23 is no precise tally of the total number of native Texans who served  
24 in the conflict, an estimated 500,000 current Texas residents are

1 Vietnam veterans; in honor of all Texans who served and died in the  
2 Vietnam War, the 79th Texas Legislature passed a resolution  
3 cosponsored by Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa and Representative  
4 Wayne Smith, themselves Vietnam veterans, that authorized the  
5 placement of a monument on the Capitol grounds; the Texas Capitol  
6 Vietnam Veterans Monument was dedicated on March 29, 2015, in a  
7 ceremony attended by an estimated 5,000 people; and

8         WHEREAS, While we can never fully repay the immense debt of  
9 gratitude owed to the men and women who served this country in the  
10 Vietnam War, this monument continues to remind all who pass by of  
11 their valor, patriotism, and unwavering devotion to duty; now,  
12 therefore, be it

13         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
14 Legislature hereby honor the Vietnam veterans who are members of  
15 this body and express heartfelt appreciation to all veterans who  
16 served during the Vietnam War.