

Resolution #22- 11
A Resolution Designating March 29, 2022
as “Welcome Home Veterans Day”

Whereas, the Vietnam War was fought in Vietnam from 1961 to 1975, and involved North Vietnam and the Viet Cong in conflict with the United States Armed Forces and South Vietnam; and

Whereas, the United States became involved in the Vietnam War because policymakers in the United States believed that if South Vietnam fell to a Communist government, then Communism would spread throughout the rest of Southeast Asia; and

Whereas, members of the United States Armed Forces began serving in an advisory role to the South Vietnamese in 1961; and

Whereas, due to the Gulf of Tonkin incidents on August 2, 1964, and August 4, 1964, Congress overwhelmingly passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution on August 7, 1964, which effectively handed over war-making powers to President Johnson until such time as “peace and security” had returned to Vietnam; and

Whereas, in 1965, United States Armed Forces ground combat units arrived in Vietnam; and

Whereas, by the end of 1965, there were 80,000 United States troops in Vietnam, and by 1969 a peak of approximately 543,000 troops was reached; and

Whereas, on January 27, 1973, the Treaty of Paris was signed, which required the release of all United States prisoners-of-war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all United States Armed Forces from South Vietnam; and

Whereas, on March 29, 1973, the United States Armed Forces completed the withdrawal of combat troops from Vietnam; and

Whereas, more than 58,000 members of the United States Armed Forces lost their lives in Vietnam and more than 300,000 members of the Armed Forces were wounded; and

Whereas, upon their return home, members of the United States Armed Forces who served bravely and faithfully for the United States during the Vietnam War, were caught in the crossfire of public debate about the involvement of the United States in the Vietnam War; and

Whereas, it was also the first time in history the United States failed to welcome its veterans back as heroes; and

Whereas, the establishment of a "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" would be an appropriate way to honor those members of the United States Armed Forces who served during the Vietnam War; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Brookings County Commission does hereby recognize March 29, 2022, as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day."

Be it further resolved, that the Brookings County Commission further honors and recognizes the contributions of veterans of the Armed Forces who served in the Vietnam War.

Dated this 22nd day of March 2022.


Angela Bóersma, Chairperson
Brookings County Commission

ATTEST:


Lori Schultz, Finance Officer
Brookings County

