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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Vietnam War was fought in Vietnam from 1961 to
3 1975, and involved North Vietnam and the Viet Cong in conflict
4 with the United States Armed Forces and South Vietnam; and

5 WHEREAS, The United States became involved by serving in an
6 advisory role to the South Vietnamese in 1961; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1965, United States Armed Forces ground combat
8 units arrived in Vietnam and by the end of that year there were
9 80,000 United States troops in Vietnam with a peak of
10 approximately 500,000 troops in 1969; and

11 WHEREAS, On January 27, 1973, the Treaty of Paris was
12 signed, which required the release of all United States
13 prisoners-of-war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of
14 all United States Armed Forces from South Vietnam; by March 30,
15 1973, the United States Armed Forces completed the withdrawal
16 of combat troops from Vietnam; and

17 WHEREAS, More than 58,000 members of the United States
18 Armed Forces lost their lives in Vietnam and more than 300,000
19 members of the Armed Forces were wounded; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was

1 dedicated in Washington, D.C. to commemorate those members of
2 the United States Armed Forces who died or were declared
3 missing-in-action in Vietnam; and

4 WHEREAS, Members of the United States Armed Forces who
5 served bravely and faithfully for the United States during the
6 Vietnam War were caught upon their return home in the crossfire
7 of public debate about the involvement of the United States in
8 the Vietnam War; and

9 WHEREAS, March 30th marks the anniversary of the day that
10 combat and combat support units withdrew completely from South
11 Vietnam; and

12 WHEREAS, The Ranking Member of the United States Senate
13 Committee on Veterans' Affairs introduced Senate Resolution 55
14 before the 112th Congress, which was agreed to on March 7,
15 2011, to honor veterans who served in Vietnam by designating
16 March 30th as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day"; and

17 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois General Assembly
18 support the United States Senate in the establishment of a
19 "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" as an appropriate way to
20 honor those members of the United States Armed Forces who
21 served in Vietnam during the Vietnam War; and

1 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois General Assembly agree
2 that March 30 would be an appropriate day to establish "Welcome
3 Home Vietnam Veterans Day" in the State of Illinois; therefore,
4 be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we proclaim March 30, 2013 and March
8 30, 2014 as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" in the State of
9 Illinois; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That all citizens of the State of Illinois are
11 encouraged to honor our Vietnam Veterans.