

1 HJR963
2 121869-1
3 By Representatives Coleman, Allen, Baker (A), Ball, Bandy,
4 Barton, Beasley, Beech, Bentley, Black, Boyd, Brown, Buskey,
5 Canfield, Clouse, Collier, Curtis, Davis, DeMarco, Dukes,
6 England, Faust, Fields, Fincher, Ford, Galliher, Gaston,
7 Gipson, Gordon, Graham, Grantland, Greeson, Grimes, Guin,
8 Hall, Hammon, Harper, Hill, Hilliard, Hinshaw, Howard,
9 Hubbard, Hurst, Irons, Ison, Jackson, Johnson, Kennedy, Laird,
10 Letson, Lewis, Lindsey, Love, Martin, Mask, McAdory,
11 McCampbell, McClammy, McClurkin, McCutcheon, McDaniel,
12 McLaughlin, McMillan, Millican, Mitchell, Moore (M), Moore
13 (P), Morrow, Newton (C), Newton (D), Oden, Robinson (O),
14 Salaam, Sanderford, Scott, Sherer, Shiver, Spicer, Taylor,
15 Thigpen, Thomas (E), Thomas (J), Todd, Treadaway, Vance, Ward,
16 Warren, White, Williams (J), Williams (P), Wood and Wren
17 RFD:
18 First Read: 14-APR-10

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8 HONORING VIETNAM VETERANS AND ENCOURAGING
9 ESTABLISHMENT OF A WELCOME HOME CELEBRATION IN 2011.
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11 WHEREAS, although it has been 37 years since the
12 Vietnam Veterans served the cause of justice in Southeast
13 Asia, their commitment and dedication continue to deserve the
14 highest praise; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2007, the United States Congress, by
16 separate Senate and House Resolutions, declared that a Welcome
17 Home Vietnam Veterans Day should be established; and

18 WHEREAS, Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day is
19 observed in many states each year, recognizing the
20 contributions and honoring the sacrifices of our valiant
21 veterans;

22 WHEREAS, the Vietnam War was fought in Vietnam from
23 1961 to 1975, and involved North Vietnam and the Viet Cong in
24 conflict with the United States and South Vietnam; and

25 WHEREAS, in 1965, there were 80,000 United States
26 troops in Vietnam, and by 1969, a peak of approximately
27 543,000 troops was reached; and

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

5 WHEREAS, on March 30, 1973, the United States Armed
6 Forces completed the withdrawal of combat troops from Vietnam;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, more than 58,000 members of the United
9 States Armed Forces lost their lives in Vietnam and more than
10 300,000 were wounded; and

11 WHEREAS, some 1,200 members from Alabama were
12 mortally wounded while countless others were injured; for each
13 of those 1,200 members, there are family members and friends
14 around the state and the nation whose suffering knows no
15 bounds; and

16 WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of Alabama owe
17 never-ending gratitude to our soldiers in Vietnam who
18 courageously defended American freedoms against ruthless
19 enemies, yet no amount of gratitude can adequately compensate
20 these patriots for their pain, suffering, and disruption to
21 their lives; and

22 WHEREAS, we welcome the Vietnam Veterans to our
23 communities as people who love this county and who have put
24 their lives at stake for freedom and democracy for all, and
25 their service should never be forgotten; now therefore,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
27 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That our Vietnam Veterans are most

1 highly honored for their patriotism, commitment, and exemplary
2 service, and we encourage plans to establish and celebrate
3 Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day in the State of Alabama in
4 2011 as a sign of gratitude to Vietnam Veterans and to mark
5 their coming home.