
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1792 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY GROVE, BAKER, DUSH, SONNEY, READSHAW, REGAN,
CORBIN, M. K. KELLER, PICKETT, SCHLEGEL CULVER, MUSTIO,
KOTIK, ENGLISH, ADOLPH, BENNINGHOFF, MILLARD, COHEN, O'NEILL,
BOBACK, DAVIS, HAHN, MURT, SACCONI, LONGIETTI, PHILLIPS-HILL,
METZGAR, CUTLER, HEFFLEY, NEILSON, CALTAGIRONE, V. BROWN,
KINSEY, DRISCOLL, MCGINNIS, DIGIROLAMO, MACKENZIE, THOMAS,
KNOWLES, R. BROWN, TOEPEL, ORTITAY, GIBBONS, A. HARRIS, COX,
FARINA, KAUFFMAN, WARD, YOUNGBLOOD, GERGELY, MARSICO,
HARHART, MARSHALL, JOZWIAK, EVERETT, SANTORA, DONATUCCI,
CONKLIN, MENTZER, SAINATO, GOODMAN, OBERLANDER, SCHREIBER,
MASSER, SAYLOR, PAYNE, WATSON AND MILNE, JANUARY 21, 2016

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, JANUARY 21, 2016

AN ACT

1 Designating March 29 of each year as "Welcome Home Vietnam
2 Veterans Day."

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Welcome Home
7 Vietnam Veterans Day Act.

8 Section 2. Legislative findings and declarations.

9 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

10 (1) The Vietnam Conflict was fought from 1961 to 1975.

11 (2) The United States became involved in the Vietnam
12 Conflict because policymakers in the United States believed
13 that if South Vietnam fell to a Communist government,

1 Communism would spread throughout the rest of Southeast Asia.

2 (3) In 1965, there were approximately 80,000 United
3 States troops in Vietnam, and by 1969, a peak of about
4 543,000 troops was reached.

5 (4) More than 58,000 members of the United States Armed
6 Forces lost their lives in the Vietnam Conflict, and more
7 than 300,000 were wounded.

8 (5) According to the Commonwealth's military records,
9 more than 3,400 Pennsylvanians were killed in the Vietnam
10 Conflict and many more were listed as "missing in action."

11 (6) The uniquely divisive nature of the Vietnam Conflict
12 in the context of American history and the crossfire of
13 debate about the country's involvement in the conflict
14 deprived many members of the United States Armed Forces of
15 public support and appreciation for their patriotic service.

16 (7) The bravery and service of our country's Vietnam
17 Conflict veterans should be recognized and honored.

18 Section 3. Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day.

19 (a) Designation.--March 29 of each year is designated as
20 "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day."

21 (b) Proclamation.--The Governor shall issue annually a
22 proclamation calling upon all public schools and educational
23 institutions to observe "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" and
24 to conduct exercises recognizing the contributions of all those
25 involved in the Vietnam Conflict and remembering the sacrifices
26 they made for their country.

27 Section 4. Effective date.

28 This act shall take effect immediately.