

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War lasted almost twenty years, spanning the period between November 1955 and April 1975; and

WHEREAS, nearly 3 million American soldiers served in uniform in Vietnam, and more than 58,000 sacrificed their lives to protect our nation's freedom; and

WHEREAS, the last American soldiers departed Vietnam on March 29, 1973; and

WHEREAS, of the more than 700,000 veterans living in North Carolina, more than 250,000 served in the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is proud and humbled to be the home of these brave veterans, who continue to serve our state as stellar citizen leaders in their workplaces, communities, homes, and churches; and

WHEREAS, many American veterans of the Vietnam War bear permanent physical and mental scars from their time of service, and nonetheless face neglect, derision, and treatment unbefitting their courage; and

WHEREAS, it is our duty as North Carolinians and as Americans to honor and support every man and woman who has put service before self; and

WHEREAS, Vietnam War Veterans Day is an opportunity to commemorate the 1,627 North Carolinians killed or missing in Vietnam, who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect and honor their home state and nation; we are also reminded to recommit ourselves to honoring the veterans living in communities throughout our state today; and

WHEREAS, the men and women who served North Carolina and the United States during the Vietnam War deserve the utmost respect and gratitude from their fellow Americans for their heroic and selfless actions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2018, as "VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

' Roy Cooper Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twentieth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.