

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the war in Vietnam spanned a period of nearly two decades, lasting from November 1955 until April 1975; and

WHEREAS, of the nearly 3 million American soldiers, sailors, and marines who served in Vietnam, roughly 58,000 gave their lives for our nation's freedom; and

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

WHEREAS, North Carolina is honored to be the home of these courageous veterans who continue to serve as leaders in their communities, workplaces, and religious and civic organizations; and

WHEREAS, many of our nation's veterans bear permanent physical and mental scars from their time in the Armed Forces, and continue to face derision, neglect, and mistreatment despite their stellar service; and

WHEREAS, it is our duty as North Carolinians to honor and support the men and women who have put service before self; and

WHEREAS, Vietnam Veterans Day is an opportunity to commemorate the more than 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 the United States and North Carolina 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, 2020, as "VIETNAM VETERANS DAY" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all

citizens.

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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 ninth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fourth.