

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sponsor Statement

HCR 8 – Honoring Vietnam War Veterans

“Honoring United States military veterans exposed to Agent Orange during the Vietnam War; and expressing gratitude for the courageous service of those veterans to the United States.”

As proud Alaskans and representatives of our great state, we stand united in honoring the brave men and women who served our nation during the Vietnam War. Through this Concurrent Resolution, we pay tribute to the sacrifices made by those who were exposed to Agent Orange, a toxic herbicide used during that conflict.

The Vietnam War was a time of immense courage and dedication, where millions of Americans answered the call to defend our freedoms and uphold our values. Among them were our fellow Alaskans, who exemplified bravery and selflessness in the face of danger.

Agent Orange, deployed as part of Operation Ranch Hand, inflicted profound harm on both the Vietnamese landscape and those who served in the region. It's devastating effects continue to afflict veterans, causing severe illnesses and genetic abnormalities that impact not only them but also their families for generations.

Today, we recognize and express our gratitude to the surviving veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange. Despite the hardships they endure, their resilience and commitment to service remain an inspiration to us all. While their sacrifices may not always be fully acknowledged, we affirm their place in our nation's history and honor their contributions to our freedom.

Through this resolution, we affirm our unwavering support for these veterans and their families. We pledge to remember their sacrifices, advocate for their well-being, and ensure that their service to our country is never forgotten.

In passing this resolution, we reaffirm our commitment to honoring the victims of Agent Orange and expressing our heartfelt gratitude for their courageous service to our country.