

# THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE



**\* HONORING \***

## **\* HMONG SPECIAL GUERRILLA UNIT VETERANS OF ALASKA \***

The Twenty-eighth Alaska State Legislature honors and recognizes the Hmong Special Guerrilla Units that fought valiantly in support of American interests during the Vietnam War.

Hmong Special Guerrilla Units played a fundamental role in combatting and disrupting Communist forces during the Vietnam conflict. Trained covertly by the CIA and armed by the United States, nearly 25,000 Hmong soldiers fought valiantly to block the primary supply route of the North Vietnamese Army, gathered intelligence, supported American military personnel and rescued downed pilots.

The high cost of service endured by Hmong fighters and civilians is testament to their dedication and loyalty. During the conflict, heavy bombing campaigns decimated the agricultural livelihood of the Hmong people. Well over 40,000 died and far more were displaced. When Laos finally fell to Communist forces, tens of thousands more were forced to flee to avoid retribution and reprisal.

Despite serving honorably in the Vietnam War, Hmong veterans were not formally recognized for their courage and sacrifice. Instead, they waited decades and many passed away before being honored for their service. Today, the significant role of the Hmong people in the Vietnam War is only now beginning to be taught and respected.


The 200,000 Hmong living in the United States, including the thriving community in Alaska, deserve the dignity of being recognized for their sacrifices. With great respect for their valor and bravery, the members of the Twenty-eighth Legislature proudly salute Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit veterans and thank them for their service.



  
MIKE CHENAULT  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

  
SEN. BILL WIELECHOWSKI  
PRIME SPONSOR

Date: April 16, 2014

  
CHARLIE HUGGINS  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

  
REP. GABRIELLE LEDOUX  
PRIME SPONSOR

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*Provided by Sen. Wielechowski for SB 194 in SSTA*