

HB

281

<TARGET><BILL>HB 281</BILL><SUBJECT>HB
281</SUBJECT><COMM>SSTA27</COMM></TARGET>

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 2/21/12

FURTHER: RULES

DATE TURNED IN TO OFFICE: 4-12-12

State Affairs Committee considered HOUSE BILL NO. 281

HB 281-WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

"An Act establishing March 30 of each year as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day."

and recommends:

be replaced with SCS HB 281 (STA) [] Same Title [] Technical Title Change
[] New Title/SCR No. _____

[] adopt previous SCS/CS- Forthcoming (_____) [] Same Title [] Technical Title Change
[] New Title/SCR No. _____

[] attached amendment(s)

[] adopt _____ Letter of Intent

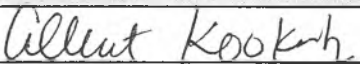
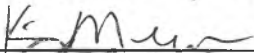
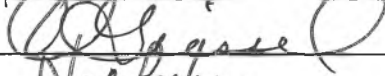
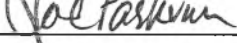

[] further referral to _____ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LEG
CED	LAW
COR	LWF
CRT	MVA
EED	DNR
DEC	DPS
DFG	REV
GOV	DOT
DHS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
Adm			✓	1

[] APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	Do PASS	Do NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	KOOKESH	✓			
	Meyer	✓			
	Giessel	✓			
	PASIK	✗			
CHAIR: 	Wielechowski	✓			

27-LS0791V
Wayne
4/6/12

SENATE CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 281()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES THOMAS, Feige, Lynn, Kerttula, Saddler, Petersen, Austerman, Miller, Gruenberg, Pruitt, Tuck, Millett, Tammie Wilson, Olson, Hawker, Keller, Fairclough

SENATOR Menard

A BILL
FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing March 29 of each year as Vietnam Veterans Day."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 *** Section 1.** AS 44.12 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 44.12.068. Vietnam Veterans Day.** Vietnam Veterans Day is established
5 on March 29 of each year to acknowledge and commemorate the military service of
6 American men and women in Vietnam. The day may be observed by suitable
7 observances and exercises by civic groups and the public.

The White House

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 29, 2012

Presidential Proclamation -- Vietnam Veterans Day

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

On January 12, 1962, United States Army pilots lifted more than 1,000 South Vietnamese service members over jungle and underbrush to capture a National Liberation Front stronghold near Saigon. Operation Chopper marked America's first combat mission against the Viet Cong, and the beginning of one of our longest and most challenging wars. Through more than a decade of conflict that tested the fabric of our Nation, the service of our men and women in uniform stood true. Fifty years after that fateful mission, we honor the more than 3 million Americans who served, we pay tribute to those we have laid to rest, and we reaffirm our dedication to showing a generation of veterans the respect and support of a grateful Nation.

The Vietnam War is a story of service members of different backgrounds, colors, and creeds who came together to complete a daunting mission. It is a story of Americans from every corner of our Nation who left the warmth of family to serve the country they loved. It is a story of patriots who braved the line of fire, who cast themselves into harm's way to save a friend, who fought hour after hour, day after day to preserve the liberties we hold dear. From Ia Drang to Hue, they won every major battle of the war and upheld the highest traditions of our Armed Forces.

Eleven years of combat left their imprint on a generation. Thousands returned home bearing shrapnel and scars; still more were burdened by the invisible wounds of post-traumatic stress, of Agent Orange, of memories that would never fade. More than 58,000 laid down their lives in service to our Nation. Now and forever, their names are etched into two faces of black granite, a lasting memorial to those who bore conflict's greatest cost.

Our veterans answered our country's call and served with honor, and on March 29, 1973, the last of our troops left Vietnam. Yet, in one of the war's most profound tragedies, many of these men and women came home to be shunned or neglected -- to face treatment unbecoming their courage and a welcome unworthy of their example. We must never let this happen again. Today, we reaffirm one of our most fundamental obligations: to show all who have worn the uniform of the United States the respect and dignity they deserve, and to honor their sacrifice by serving them as well as they served us. Half a century after those helicopters swept off the ground and into the annals of history, we pay tribute to the fallen, the missing, the wounded, the millions who served, and the millions more who awaited their return. Our Nation stands stronger for their service, and on Vietnam Veterans Day, we honor their proud legacy with our deepest gratitude.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2012, as Vietnam Veterans Day. I call upon all Americans to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities that commemorate the 50 year anniversary of the Vietnam War.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-sixth.

BARACK OBAMA



MARCH 29th

**VIETNAM VETERANS DAY
USA**



COALITION OF STATES COUNCIL



May 1, 2011

**PETITION FOR LEGISLATION TO THE
CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Dear Honorable Members of Congress and President Obama:

Whereas, thirty eight years ago, on March 29, 1973, the last 2,500 troops were withdrawn from South Vietnam thus ending military involvement in what is now the longest war in our country's history, and

Whereas, thirty seven years ago, March 29, 1974 was declared Vietnam Veterans Day by Presidential order with the support of Congress, and

Whereas, the 58,195 honorable and brave souls who fought and died during the Vietnam War, ones who are missing, and those who died since from the consequences of that war, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation to be expressed on the **29th of March** of every year in perpetuity and dedicated as **Vietnam Veterans Day**, the Official Day of Recognition and

Whereas, the men and women who served with dedication, honor, and pride during the Vietnam War, both in country and in support of those in harm's way as well as those protecting our freedoms at home and throughout other parts of the world at that time, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

Whereas, the families whose loved ones gave their lives for our country during the Vietnam War, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

Whereas, the families of those men and women who came home with the physical and emotional wounds of the Vietnam War and committed to a lifetime of care and support for their loved one, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and



Whereas, the fellow citizens who stood by and supported the families of the fallen as well as the Vietnam veterans who returned and their families, without reservation and with loving care and respect, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

Whereas, those professionals and volunteers who committed themselves to the loving care and healing of the bodily and emotionally wounded from the Vietnam War at home and have already the utmost gratitude of those they cared for and of their families, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

Whereas, the men and women of our Allies who served with dedication, honor, and pride alongside our Nation's defenders during the Vietnam War, both in country and in support of those in harm's way as well as those protecting our freedoms and throughout other parts of the world at that time, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

Whereas, this expression of gratitude and respect to the Vietnam Veterans and their families will also give hope and assurance, to current and future generations of our Nation's Defenders and their respective families, that their sacrifice and service will not be forgotten and deserving of a distinct recognition of the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

Whereas, this expression of gratitude and respect for the honorable sacrifice and service by the Vietnam Veteran, past as well as current and future generations of our nation's defenders and their respective families, needs to remain in the hearts and thoughts of our fellow citizens forever, passed on from generation to generation, and

Whereas numerous States have already chosen March 29th as Vietnam Veterans Day by Legislation and many more states have joined with individual events to honor and thank these brave Veterans and their families for their service to our Great Country,

We therefore, ask the United States House of Representatives to support this request by passage of a standalone Legislation declaring March 29th Vietnam Veterans Day in perpetuity and ask the United States Senate to join in the passage of this same standalone Legislation, incorporating the whereas recognitions that are part of this request. We ask the President of the United States to support this legislation. The proposed wording for the legislation follows.

March 29th Vietnam Veterans Day Coalition Ltr to Congress and President 20110505

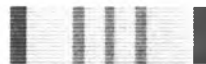
And we ask the members of the United States Congress, with President Obama's concurrence, to deliver this long overdue tribute by our nation to those honored in this March 29th Vietnam Veterans Day legislation and to have it stand as a distinct symbol of our fellow citizens expression of gratitude, and be a beacon of hope for future defenders of our nation and their families.

We remain forever vigilant and in service to our country, the families who lost a loved one during our wars and since, our veterans and the defenders of our nation as well as their families, our fellow citizens and communities.

Sincerely,



MARCH 29th
VIETNAM VETERANS DAY
USA



COALITION OF STATES COUNCIL



Dann Dunham, Chairman
Dann Dunham, Delegate -Tennessee

Clifton D. Hernandez
Delegate - Alabama

Ric Davidge
Delegate – Alaska

Rick Beach
Delegate – California

Frank and Sharon Blackman
Delegates - Florida

Diane Finnemann
Delegate - Minnesota

Flo Yost
Delegate - Mississippi

Esardo Sanchez, Co-chairman
Delegate - New Mexico

James F. Dugan
Delegate - New Jersey

Lester Modelowitz
Delegate - New York

Jim Rosin and Paul Hauke
Delegates - Ohio

Robert E. Gilbert
Delegate – Pennsylvania

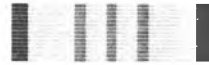
Thuy Smith
Delegate - Wisconsin

Rimantas Ray Saikus, Secretary
Delegate - Ohio





MARCH 29th
VIETNAM VETERANS DAY
USA



COALITION OF STATES COUNCIL

May 1, 2011



*** PROPOSED LEGISLATION ***

On behalf of the citizens of our great nation, the United States of America, and on behalf of the 111th Congress and the President of United States, this legislation is enacted to be an expression of eternal gratitude and respect to those who served during the Vietnam War Era and to be commemorated as **Vietnam Veterans Day** on the **29th of March** of each year in perpetuity.

This Official Day of Recognition will serve as a vivid reminder that:

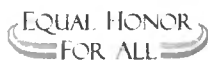
On March 29, 1973, the last 2,500 troops were withdrawn from South Vietnam thus ending military involvement in what is now the longest war in our country's history, and

March 29, 1974 was declared Vietnam Veterans Day by Presidential order with the support of Congress, and

58,195 honorable and brave souls who fought and died during the Vietnam War, ones who are missing, and those who died since from the consequences of that war, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

The men and women who served with dedication, honor, and pride during the Vietnam War, both in country and in support of those in harm's way as well as those protecting our freedoms at home and throughout other parts of the world at that time, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

The families whose loved ones gave their lives for our country during the Vietnam War, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and



The families of those men and women who came home with the physical and emotional wounds of the Vietnam War and committed to a lifetime of care and support for their loved one, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

The fellow citizens who stood by and supported, the families of the fallen as well as the Vietnam veterans who returned and their families without reservation and with loving care and respect, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

The professionals and volunteers who committed themselves to the loving care and healing of the bodily and emotionally wounded from the Vietnam War at home, and have already the utmost gratitude of those they cared for and of their families, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

The men and women of our Allies who served with dedication, honor, and pride alongside our Nation's defenders during the Vietnam War, both in country and in support of those in harm's way as well as those protecting our freedoms and throughout other parts of the world at that time, deserve the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

This expression of gratitude and respect to the Vietnam Veterans and their families will also give hope and assurance, to current and future generations of our Nation's Defenders and their respective families, that their sacrifice and service will not be forgotten and deserving of a distinct recognition of the eternal gratitude and respect of this nation, and

And this expression of gratitude and respect for the honorable sacrifice and service by the Vietnam Veterans and past as well as current and future generations of our nation's defenders and their respective families, needs to remain in the hearts and thoughts of our fellow citizens forever, passed on from generation to generation.



REPRESENTATIVE BILL THOMAS

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE DISTRICT 5

e-mail: Representative.Bill.Thomas@legis.state.ak.us

webpage: www.akrepublicans.org/thomas/

State Capitol

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888-461-3732

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Sponsor Statement HB 281

"An Act establishing March 30 of each year as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day."

On March 30, 1973, all U.S. troops withdrew from Vietnam, marking an end of the 10 year United States military involvement. There were no parades honoring the veterans, no triumphant marches or speeches as there had been at the end of each of the World Wars. America's Vietnam veterans returned home to silence, and in some cases, to abuse for having served their country during a controversial war.

Last year the U.S. Senate designated March 30, 2011 as, Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day. It marked the 38th anniversary of the withdrawal of U.S. combat and combat-support unit from Vietnam.

HB 281 would dedicate March 30 of each year as, Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day in the State of Alaska to commemorate the military service of American men and women in Vietnam. The day may be observed by suitable observances and exercises by civic groups and the public.

I would appreciate your support for House Bill 281.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version HB281
 Fiscal Note Number _____
 () Publish Date _____

Identifier (file name) HB281-DOA-FAC-2-4-12 Dept. Affected Administration
 Title Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day Appropriation General Services
 Allocation Facilities
 Sponsor Representative Thomas
 Requester House Military and Veterans Affairs OMB Component Number 2429

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	FY13 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY13 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY13	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants, Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE		(Thousands of Dollars)					
1002	Federal Receipts						
1003	GF Match						
1004	GF						
1005	GF/Prgm (DGF)						
1037	GF/MH (UGF)						
1178	temp code (UGF)						
TOTAL		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS							
Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

CHANGE IN REVENUES							
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Estimated **SUPPLEMENTAL (FY12) operating costs** _____ (separate supplemental appropriation required)
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated **CAPITAL (FY13) costs** _____ (separate capital appropriation required)
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Not applicable, initial version

Prepared by Vern Jones
 Division Division of General Services
 Approved by John Cramer, Deputy Commissioner
 Department of Administration

Phone 465-5684
 Date/Time 2/4/12 4:30 PM
 Date 2/4/2012

FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

BILL NO. HB281

Analysis

This bill will establish March 30 of each year as a Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day.

It is not anticipated that there will be a fiscal impact and we therefore submit a zero fiscal note.