

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION: #25-9

SUBMITTED BY: 8th District

SUBJECT: The 50th Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, 50 years ago, after the fall of Saigon, President Gerald Ford declared May 7, 1975 as the official end of the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, we honor all who served on active duty in the United State Armed Forces at any time during the period of February 1, 1961, to May 7, 1975 regardless of duty location; and

WHEREAS, during that long conflict, more than 58,000 Americans — including 2,666 Michiganders, one of whom was in the last group of 41 service members killed in May 1975 —gave their lives for freedom's sake and their names are forever etched in black granite on the Vietnam Veteran Memorial Wall in Washington D.C.; and

WHEREAS, our nation is resolute to bring home the 1,549 MIA's — including 48 Michiganders who are still missing; and

WHEREAS, upon the conclusion of their service, Vietnam veterans returned home to a country deeply divided over the war, where their service was not met with gratitude and pride, but with protests and disrespect; and

WHEREAS, nothing that we say or do can repay our Vietnam veterans for the wounds they endured, or the pain and sacrifice they continue to live with today because of their service; and

WHEREAS, today, Vietnam veterans are leaders in all walks of life and serve to make America a better place to live; and

WHEREAS, as residents of the great State of Michigan, we must never forget the sacrifice of the men and women who fought in the name of freedom and democracy for all; and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the American Legion, Department of Michigan, in Annual Winter Conference Meeting, assembled in Port Huron, Michigan, February 7 -9, 2025, that The American Legion, Department of Michigan proclaim May 7, 2025, as the official "50th Anniversary" end of the Vietnam War.

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APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____ REFERRED TO _____ APPROVED w/AMEND _____