

*By Senator Dorothy L. Hukill*

- WHEREAS, the Vietnam War was fought in Vietnam from 1961 to 1975; and
- WHEREAS, in 1965, there were 184,000 United States troops in Vietnam and, by 1969, that number had grown to about 475,000 troops, and
- WHEREAS, on January 27, 1973, the Treaty of Paris was signed, requiring the release of all United States prisoners of war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all United States Armed Forces, and on March 30, 1973, the United States completed the withdrawal of combat troops; and
- WHEREAS, during the course of the war, more than 58,000 members of the United States Armed Forces lost their lives in Vietnam and more than 300,000 were wounded; and
- WHEREAS, many Americans are still missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War, and their families, friends and fellow veterans still endure uncertainty concerning their fate; and
- WHEREAS, upon their return home, members of the United States Armed Forces who had served honorably and courageously during the Vietnam War were denied the recognition and respect they deserved for protecting the freedoms we hold dear; and
- WHEREAS, on March 29, 2012 the President of the United States of America proclaimed March 29<sup>th</sup> as Vietnam Veterans Day; and
- WHEREAS, let this expression of appreciation and respect for the Vietnam Veterans and their families, also give hope and assurance to current and future generations who serve our country, that their sacrifice and service will not be forgotten and is deserving of a distinct recognition; and
- WHEREAS, we gather today to celebrate, honor, and show our gratitude to those that gave their lives in service to our country and those Vietnam Veterans with us today. “Welcome home and thank you for your service.”

Therefore, I, **Dorothy L. Hukill, State Senator, District 8**, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2014 as the

**VFW Post 3282 Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day.**

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Senator Dorothy L. Hukill  
8<sup>th</sup> Senate District