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House Resolution

A resolution expressing gratitude and support for the men and women of the United States military serving in the Global War on Terror and designating June 16, 2008, as "Vets for Victory Day" in the State of Florida.

7 WHEREAS, almost 3 million American men and women serving in 8 the United States military as active-duty members of the United 9 States Armed Forces, members of the National Guard, and military 10 reservists are on duty around the world, charged with the 11 responsibility of protecting the United States, its citizens, 12 and our interests and allies, and

WHEREAS, many of these servicemembers are currently engaged in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan, fighting the "Global War on Terror," and

16 WHEREAS, over 125,000 men and women from Florida have 17 served in the military in Iraq and Afghanistan as part of the 18 Global War on Terror, and

WHEREAS, over 29,000 American troops have been wounded in combat in Iraq, and 1,868 American troops have been wounded in Afghanistan, since March 19, 2003, while more than 4,400 others have made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives in service to their country, and

24 WHEREAS, all members of the United States military who are 25 engaged in fighting the Global War on Terror do so with 26 considerable personal sacrifice, which often includes long 27 separations from their families, and

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28 WHEREAS, the Armed Forces of the United States continue to 29 protect all Americans, the interests of our nation, and our 30 allies from those who are our avowed enemies and, in doing so, 31 need and deserve our complete respect and support, NOW, 32 THEREFORE,

34 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of 35 Florida:

That the House of Representatives of the State of Florida declares its complete and unwavering support for the American men and women serving in the United States military as activeduty members of the United States Armed Forces, members of the National Guard, and military reservists, both around the world and here at home, and for their mission in conducting the Global War on Terror.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, on behalf of the people of the State of Florida, the House of Representatives of the State of Florida hereby affirms that we will not abandon our servicemen and servicewomen in this time of war and pledges its full support to them and to their efforts to secure victory.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, on behalf of the people of the State of Florida, the House of Representatives of the State of Florida expresses its deepest gratitude and heartfelt pride for the sacrifices and bravery of our servicemen and servicewomen both at home and abroad and expresses its utmost gratitude for their heroic service to the United States of America.

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55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in recognition of their 56 service to the nation, the House of Representatives of the State 57 of Florida designates June 16, 2008, as "Vets for Victory Day" 58 in the State of Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be 59 transmitted to the President of the United States, to the 60 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the 61 United States House of Representatives, to the United States 62 Secretary of Defense, to the United States Secretary of Veterans 63 Affairs, to each member of the Florida delegation to the United 64 65 States Congress, to the Governor of the State of Florida, and to 66 the Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans' 67 Affairs, as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.