

Council of the City of Philadelphia Office of the Chief Clerk Room 402, City Hall Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 140874)

#### RESOLUTION

Celebrating, honoring and thanking American veterans of the Vietnam War.

WHEREAS, 2014 is the 50th year anniversary of the Gulf of Tonkin Incidents that marked the beginning of the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, American veterans of the Vietnam War served honorably throughout the war, fighting courageously and often making the ultimate sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, The United States holds as its highest ideals freedom, democracy and selfdetermination; during the Vietnam War, about 8,744,000 American armed forces fought bravely to preserve and defend these ideals; and

WHEREAS, Armed forces from the United States were sent to the Vietnam War to support the forces of the Republic of South Vietnam and the cause of freedom from communist forces; and

WHEREAS, 47,434 American soldiers were killed in battle, 10,786 were killed in noncombat deaths, more than 150,000 were wounded and more than 2,000 soldiers are missing in action; and

WHEREAS, American armed forces fought bravely and were known for their dedication, tenacity and effectiveness on the battlefield; and

WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Vietnam Veterans Memorial, dedicated at Penn's Landing, is a monument to the 646 Philadelphians lost in the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is an organization of Vietnam War veterans that demonstrated extraordinary fundraising efforts to launch the Memorial in 1987 and that provides general leadership and advocacy in the Philadelphia area; and

RESOLUTION NO. 140874 continued

WHEREAS, In response to damage caused by vandalism and other sources of deterioration, The Fund commenced the "Duty to Remember Campaign" in order to renovate the Memorial with new paving material, refurbishment of names and enhanced lighting among other updates; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That it hereby celebrates, honors, and thanks our Vietnam War veterans on Veterans Day 2014.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the Philadelphia Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund symbolically on behalf of all veterans and evidencing the sincere admiration and respect of this legislative body.

RESOLUTION NO. 140874 continued

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the thirtieth day of October, 2014.

Darrell L. Clarke PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmembers Oh, Squilla and Henon

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Oh, Squilla, Henon, Bass, Neilson, Kenney, Greenlee, Goode, Tasco, Blackwell, Reynolds Brown, Quiñones Sánchez and O'Brien