

The State of Texas



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Vietnam War, one of the most momentous and divisive conflicts in American history, is at last to have a major facility devoted to it, and the site for the National Vietnam War Museum is being dedicated in Mineral Wells on July 3, 2004; and

WHEREAS, When completed, this museum will examine the full scope of the Vietnam War and its legacy; it is hoped that by addressing the conflict in its historical and cultural context and by presenting different points of view about the struggle, the exhibits will cultivate a deeper, clearer understanding of the war and its far-reaching effects; and

WHEREAS, The impact of the Vietnam War was felt not only in North and South Vietnam and the United States but also in many other countries, among them Cambodia, the Philippines, Korea, Thailand, China, Russia, France, Great Britain, Australia, and New Zealand; for those generations immediately affected by the war, whatever their nationality, the museum will provide a way to remember and, perhaps finally, to comprehend this long and complex struggle; and

WHEREAS, The story of the Vietnam War is to be presented through an examination of eight broad subjects: the Cold War, 1945-1990; the nation and culture of Vietnam, 1700-present; the chronology of the war, 1940s-1975; the evolution in ground, air, and sea warfare, 1945-1973; the home front in the United States, 1960s-1970s; the war and technology, 1954-1973; the war's end and aftermath, 1973-present; and Fort Wolters, 1921-present; and

WHEREAS, Credit for conceiving the original idea for this museum belongs to members of the Fort Wolters Chapter, Inc., of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association; the National Vietnam War Museum was organized in 1998, and in 1999 The Friends of the Museum acquired 12 acres for the facility near the site of the former Fort Wolters, where most American helicopter pilots who served in the war began their training; and

WHEREAS, Charter sponsors of the museum currently include, in addition to the Fort Wolters Chapter, the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association; the American Legion; Texas Tech University; the Reserve Officers Association, Department of Texas; the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Texas; the Americal Division Veterans Association; NAM-POWs, Inc.; the Vietnam Veterans of America, Texas State Council and State of Louisiana; the Republic of Viet Nam Air Force Veterans Association of Dallas/Fort Worth; and the Military Order of the World Wars, Fort Worth Chapter; and

WHEREAS, With the construction of the National Vietnam War Museum, Americans will gain a historical resource of immeasurable value and an opportunity, equally important, for reflection, resolution, and healing; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the dedication of the site for the National Vietnam War Museum be commemorated and that all those associated with the development of this museum be extended sincere appreciation for their outstanding vision and commitment.



Craig Estes
Craig Estes
State Senator
District 30

