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THIRD READING

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Bill No: ACR 134  
Author: Nguyen (R), et al.  
Introduced: 2/8/22  
Vote: 21

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ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 6/9/22 (Consent) - See last page for vote

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**SUBJECT:** Veterans of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Day

**SOURCE:** Author

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**DIGEST:** This resolution proclaims June 19, 2022, as Veterans of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Day.

**ANALYSIS:** This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The Republic of Vietnam Military Forces, or South Vietnamese Armed Forces, were formally established on December 30, 1955. The Republic of Vietnam Military Forces consisted of four branches. The duties of all four branches included: protecting the sovereignty of the free Vietnamese nation and that of the Republic, maintaining the political and social order and the rule of law by providing internal security, defending the newly independent Republic of Vietnam from external and internal threats, and ultimately, helping to reunify Vietnam, a country that had been divided since the Geneva Accords of 1954.
- 2) After the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, more than 250,000 members of the South Vietnamese Armed Forces were sent to prison camps, where many spent 18 years or more in captivity and more than 20,000 died before they were released.
- 3) The end of the Vietnam War left the South Vietnamese Armed Forces in disarray. Many military personnel and their family members fled Vietnam to escape tyrannical authoritarian rule and oppression, and hoped to find democracy and freedom in the United States and other free nations. Many of those who reached the United States found refuge in California and in various

states throughout the country. Thousands of veterans of the South Vietnamese Armed Forces now reside in the United States. Today there are more than 100,000 veterans from the Republic of Vietnam living in California.

- 4) In the United States, these military personnel continued to fight for their home country and the people there. They have been a strong voice for democracy, religious freedom, and human rights in Vietnam and have contributed culturally and economically to our society and to the diversity of our nation.
- 5) These veterans were fighting side by side with American soldiers against a common enemy and risked their lives to save many American lives. All veterans who risked their lives fighting for freedom should be honored for their distinguished service in the Vietnam War and for the contributions they provide to the United States as American citizens, and it is the intent of the State of California to honor the sacrifices, commitment, dedication, and courage of everyone who fought for the freedom of the Republic of Vietnam.
- 6) These servicemembers who paid the ultimate sacrifice for their nation and have contributed greatly to the development of our society deserve to be honored and recognized.

This resolution recognizes June 19, 2022, as Veterans of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Day, in memory of the soldiers who sacrificed their lives for freedom and democracy and the victims of the Vietnam War, and in honor of the survivors, activists, and freedom fighters of that war.

### **Comments**

The author states, “ACR 134 recognizes June 19, 2022 as Veterans of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Day and honors the bravery and courage of the South Vietnamese Armed Forces who fought alongside American Armed Forces for the values of freedom and democracy in Vietnam.

“During the Vietnam War, more than 250,000 South Vietnamese and 58,000 American Armed Forces were lost defending a free and sovereign Republic of Vietnam. Following the war, many Vietnamese refugees made the United States, and especially California, their home. ACR 134 marks June 19, 2022 as the 57th anniversary of this commemoration.”

### **Related/Prior Legislation**

The following are the most recent measures recognizing Veterans of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Day:

- SCR 84 (Umberg, 2022) - pending on Senate Floor.
- SCR 3 (Umberg, Resolution Chapter 79, Statutes of 2021).
- ACR 72 (Nguyen, Resolution Chapter 74, Statutes of 2021).
- SCR 59 (Umberg, 2020) – died on the Senate Inactive File.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

**SUPPORT:** (Verified 6/20/22)

None received

**OPPOSITION:** (Verified 6/20/22)

None received

**ASSEMBLY FLOOR:** 69-0, 6/9/22

**AYES:** Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bigelow, Bloom, Boerner Horvath, Mia Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Cervantes, Chen, Choi, Cooley, Cooper, Megan Dahle, Daly, Davies, Flora, Mike Fong, Fong, Friedman, Gabriel, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gipson, Gray, Grayson, Haney, Holden, Irwin, Jones-Sawyer, Kalra, Kiley, Lackey, Lee, Levine, Low, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, McCarty, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, Nguyen, O'Donnell, Patterson, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Reyes, Luz Rivas, Robert Rivas, Blanca Rubio, Salas, Santiago, Seyarto, Smith, Ting, Valladares, Voepel, Ward, Akilah Weber, Wilson, Wood, Rendon

**NO VOTE RECORDED:** Carrillo, Cunningham, Medina, Quirk, Rodriguez, Stone, Villapudua, Waldron, Wicks

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6/22/22 14:51:37

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