



**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR

**VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY IN FLORIDA**

**WHEREAS, throughout the rich history of the United States, patriotic men and women have taken up arms and sworn an oath to defend our nation, establishing an honorable tradition of dedicated service; and**

**WHEREAS, more than 3 million men and women served in the Vietnam War with more than 58,000 making the ultimate sacrifice; more than 304,000 were wounded and over 1,580 are still unaccounted for, including 54 from the State of Florida; and**

**WHEREAS, 2023 is the 50th anniversary of Operation Homecoming, which repatriated 591 American Prisoners of War from North Vietnam following the Paris Peace Accords; and**

**WHEREAS, Florida is recognized as one of the most military and veteran friendly states in the nation, with 1.5 million veterans calling the Sunshine State home; and**

**WHEREAS, Florida is home to more than 485,000 Vietnam-era veterans, making it the third largest population of Vietnam veterans in the nation; and**

**WHEREAS, Florida is committed to serving the state's veterans through various programs such as Paychecks for Patriots, the Hometown Heroes Housing Program, and the Continue the Mission Initiative; and**

**WHEREAS, during March's Women Veterans' History Month, we recognize and honor women veterans in Florida who served during the Vietnam War; and**

**WHEREAS, the patriotism of those in uniform who continue to defend the timeless truths and great freedoms upon which our nation was founded will continue to make our state and nation proud, and serve as an inspiration for generations to come; and**

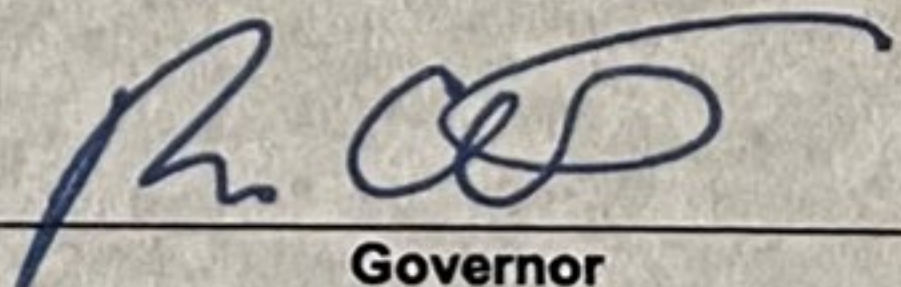
**WHEREAS, we will always honor the legacy of our Vietnam veterans who served, were wounded, or lost their lives in battle and we can never repay our debt of gratitude for the courage they demonstrated; and**

**WHEREAS, this sixth annual Vietnam War Veterans Day is an opportunity to honor all Vietnam veterans and their families and recognize the enormous contributions they continue to make to our state.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing March 29, 2023, as *Vietnam War Veterans Day in Florida*.**



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capitol, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of March, in the year two thousand twenty-three.**

  
Governor