

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, as we observe the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, we reflect with solemn reverence upon the valor of a generation that served with honor; and,

WHEREAS, we pay tribute to the more than three million servicemen and women who left their families to serve bravely, a world away from everything they knew and everyone they loved; and,

WHEREAS, we honor all who served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces and their families at any time during the period of November 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975, regardless of duty location; and,

WHEREAS, we draw inspiration from the heroes who suffered unspeakably as prisoners of war, yet who returned home with their heads held high. We pledge to keep the faith with those who were wounded and still carry the scars of war, seen and unseen; and,

WHEREAS, it is important to honor the men and women who survived the Vietnam War, as well as the 58,260 men and women who gave their lives; and,

WHEREAS, while no words will ever be fully worthy for their service, nor any honor truly befitting their sacrifice, let us remember that it is never too late to pay tribute to the men and women who answered the call of duty with courage and valor; and,

WHEREAS, let us renew our commitment to the fullest possible accounting for those who have not returned; and,

WHEREAS, throughout this commemoration, let us strive to live up to their example by showing our Vietnam veterans, their families, and all who have served the fullest respect and support of a grateful nation; and,

WHEREAS, as citizens of the great State of Illinois, we must never forget the sacrifice of the men and women who fought in the name of freedom and democracy for all; and,

WHEREAS, we should strive to live up to their example by showing our Vietnam Veterans, their families, and all servicemen and women the fullest respect and support of a grateful state and nation;

THEREFORE, I Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2018, as **VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY** in Illinois.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this SIXTEENTH day of MARCH, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
EIGHTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundredth.


Dorise Whitt
SECRETARY OF STATE

Bruce Rauner
GOVERNOR