

1 A RESOLUTION observing Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day in Kentucky
2 and honoring Vietnam veterans for their courage and sacrifice while serving our great
3 nation.

4 WHEREAS, on March 30, 2016, Governor Matt Bevin signed into law SB 178,
5 designating the thirtieth of March as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day in the
6 Commonwealth of Kentucky; and

7 WHEREAS, there are over 125,000 Kentucky Vietnam veterans in the
8 Commonwealth, and they have contributed greatly to business, art, medicine, science,
9 technology, and government service; and

10 WHEREAS, more than 58,000 members of the United States Armed Forces,
11 including 1,103 from Kentucky, lost their lives in Vietnam, and more than 300,000
12 members of the Armed Forces were wounded; and

13 WHEREAS, the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated in the city of
14 Frankfort to honor the 125,000 Kentuckians who served this nation so courageously and
15 unselfishly during the Vietnam era; and

16 WHEREAS, the Vietnam War was an extremely divisive issue among the people of
17 the United States, and the crossfire of debate about the country's involvement in the war
18 prevented many members of the Armed Forces from receiving the honor and respect they
19 deserve; and

20 WHEREAS, although civil discourse about the political affairs of the United States
21 should be encouraged, it is never too late to say, "I am sorry," and, "thank you," to our
22 Vietnam veterans; and

23 WHEREAS, the establishment of Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day by the
24 General Assembly in 2016 was an appropriate way to express appreciation and honor the
25 members of the United States Armed Forces, as well as the members of service
26 organizations who bravely served the country and their fellow citizens during the
27 Vietnam War; and

1 WHEREAS, this honorable body encourages the people of the Commonwealth to
2 observe this day with ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the numerous
3 contributions of veterans who served in Vietnam and the importance of helping all of
4 America's veterans return home and achieve happy, healthy, and productive lives;

5 NOW, THEREFORE,

6 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
7 *Kentucky:*

8 ➔Section 1. The Senate recognizes and honors Vietnam veterans for their bravery
9 and sacrifice while serving our great nation. It is with the greatest respect that this
10 honorable body commemorates the thirtieth of March as Welcome Home Vietnam
11 Veterans Day.

12 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of all the
13 brave men and women who served our great nation during the Vietnam War.