## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO PROCLAIM APRIL 30, 2011, AS "VIETNAM VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY".

WHEREAS, on January 15, 1973, then-President Richard M. Nixon announced that the United States would suspend offensive action against North Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 1973, direct United States involvement in the Vietnam War was officially ended by the signing of the Paris Peace Accords, entitled "Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam"; and

WHEREAS, a cease-fire was declared across North and South Vietnam and United States prisoners of war were released; and

WHEREAS, on March 30, 1973, all United States military withdrew from Vietnam under the terms of the treaty; and

WHEREAS, by April 30, 1973, all Americans, including military and civilians, had departed from South Vietnam;

WHEREAS, because of the civil unrest of that period in history, many Vietnam veterans came home to a politically divided country and did not receive the supportive, appreciative homecoming that is normally given to our servicemen and servicewomen who return home from overseas combat; and

WHEREAS, the courage and dedication of our troops in the Vietnam War was no less than their fellow servicemen and servicewomen overseas in other conflicts, and is equally deserving of our honor, gratitude, and support; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the sacrifice and hardship of our Vietnam veterans, the United States Senate on March 8, 2011, declared April 30, 2011, as "Vietnam Veterans Appreciation Day" to encourage Americans to give them a long overdue, warm welcome home; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-Sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor is requested to proclaim April 30, 2011, as "Vietnam Veterans Appreciation Day"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Adjutant General, and the respective directors of the United States Veterans Administration, Hawaii Office of Veteran Services, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, and the American Legion.