

Proclamation

WHEREAS, fifty years ago, on March 29, 1973, the last 2,500 American troops were withdrawn from South Vietnam, ending military involvement in what is now the longest war in our country's history; and

WHEREAS, due to the turbulent cultural climate of the era and unpopularity of the eleven-year conflict, many of the returning veterans did not receive the respect and gratitude they richly deserved for serving their nation so ably and honorably; and

WHEREAS, more than 600 men and women from the great State of Arizona made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of our country during the war; and

WHEREAS, in the spirit of pride and gratitude, it is time to honor the heroic accomplishments of the 58,000 service men and women whose names are listed on the Vietnam Memorial Wall; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the United States Secretary of Defense to conduct a program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and provided that "the Secretary shall coordinate, support and facilitate other programs and activities of the federal government, state and local governments, and other persons and organizations in commemoration of the Vietnam War"; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona and Arizona Department of Veterans' Services are Commemorative Partners of The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration; and

WHEREAS, this state desires to pay solemn tribute to our Vietnam Veterans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Katie Hobbs, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2023, as

ARIZONA VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY




IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona



GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-ninth day of March in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Sixth.

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE