

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, American troop involvement in the Vietnam War escalated in the early 1960's, combat units were deployed beginning in 1965, and the war came to an end in 1975; and

WHEREAS, of the 3,403,100 Americans who served with honor during the Vietnam War, there were 58,220 casualties, which included 636 Mississippians who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our nation; and

WHEREAS, of the 766 Prisoners of War, 114 died while captive in Vietnam, and 591 returned home during the 1973 Operation Homecoming; and

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War left almost 1,600 Americans unaccounted for, and 12 Mississippians are still listed as Missing in Action; and

WHEREAS, today there are almost 200,000 Veterans living in Mississippi, including approximately 60,000 of our sons and daughters who served during the Vietnam era; and

WHEREAS, these Mississippi Veterans heard the call of duty, stepped in, and served relentlessly and nobly in a brutal war. This was a war that has seldom received the attention it deserves and now, a half-century later, we honor our Vietnam Veterans and offer them the proper respect of a grateful state and nation; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the brave men and women who served with dignity and honor during this historic time period and during what was, at the time, the longest war in our country's history, let us remember them and thank them for their service:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2019, as

**VIETNAM VETERANS DAY
IN MISSISSIPPI**

and call upon the people of our great state to join me in honoring the Vietnam Veterans who valiantly fought and served our nation during the Vietnam War and express our gratitude to the families and loved ones of all those who served.



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

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the 19th day of March in the year of our Lord, two thousand and nineteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-third.

A blue ink signature of Phil Bryant, written in a cursive style.

PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR