

WHEREAS, *the Vietnam War, also known as the Second Indochina War, was fought in Vietnam from 1959-1975, involving the North Vietnamese and National Liberation Front (NLF) in conflict with United States forces and the South Vietnamese army; and*

WHEREAS, *the United States became involved in Vietnam because American policymakers believed that if the country fell under a Communist government, Communism would spread throughout Southeast Asia; and*

WHEREAS, *in 1964, the U.S. Congress overwhelmingly passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which effectively handed over war-making powers to President Johnson until “peace and security” returned to Vietnam; and*

WHEREAS, *in 1965, U.S. combat troops composed mainly of volunteers arrived in Vietnam; and*

WHEREAS, *by the end of 1965, there were 80,000 U.S. troops in Vietnam and by 1969, a peak of about 543,000 troops would be reached; and*

WHEREAS, *on January 27, 1973, the last U.S., troops left Vietnam; and*

WHEREAS, *more than 58,000 Americans lost their lives in Vietnam and more than 300,000 U.S. soldiers were wounded; and*

WHEREAS, *when they returned home, many Vietnam veterans were not welcomed and thanked for their service; instead some were shunned and neglected; and*

WHEREAS, *today we honor and thank our Vietnam veterans for all they have given in the service of our country;*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BUDDY DYER, *Mayor of the City of Orlando, hereby do proclaim Wednesday, March 30, 2016 as*

“WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY”

in the City of Orlando.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I hereunto have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Orlando to be affixed this 30th day of March 2016.*