

I hope this gives you all the info you need. Spread the word. Please ask as many folks as you can to do the same as you are doing. They don't have to be Veterans. Anyone, family members, students, neighbors, your mailman, etc. Thanks so much for your help with this campaign.

{Date The letter Here}

Honorable {Name of your Governor}
Governor of {Your State}
{Address Here}
{City, State and Zip Code Here}

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to join the State of California in the national WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY{WHVVD}celebration on March 30, 2009. We encourage you and your great State to become an integral part of this event that recognizes our Vietnam Veterans and ALL who served with your legislation supporting March 30 as WHVVD.

This celebration is being held in conjunction with a nationwide movement to recognize Vietnam War veterans. U.S. Congresswoman Linda T. Sanchez's H. Res. 189 and U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer's S. Res. 269 were bipartisan resolutions unanimously passed on June 25 and November 19, 2007 respectively, to honor our veterans and extend to them the welcome so many were denied more than 30 years ago. March 30 was selected because of its historical significance as the day the last combat troops left Vietnam at the end of the war.

It took eight long years, but with the help of thousands of supporters and the active assistance of Congresswoman Sanchez and Senator Boxer, WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY [WHVVD] has become a reality. In this age of economic challenges, it's important to emphasize that this recognition will come at no expense to your State. This is not about creating new holidays or additional veterans' benefits.

On March 30, 2008 in Whittier, CA. we held the first ever WHVVD celebration at California High School. What started out as a barbeque for about 200 veterans, turned out to be an event, which hosted close to 3,000 veterans of all eras and their families. Attendees included four members of Congress, two California Superior Court Judges, one active duty commanding Brigadier General, several local mayors and a number of California Assembly members. All veterans' organizations were represented.

The overwhelming turnout convinced the event steering committee of the tremendous desire and need for this celebration. Our event in 2008 was intended to be a one-time event but after the outpouring of happiness and pride expressed by all who attended, the WHVVD organization realized we were not done, and instead came to understand this was only the beginning.

Soon after the event here in Whittier, California I attended a WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY celebration on May 17, 2008 in the city of Indianapolis. I spoke with the Mayor of Indianapolis and with Indiana state representatives while I was there, and they presented me with their State Resolution and assured me they would again pass legislation supporting WHVVD in the Indiana Legislature in 2009. Because of what we accomplished with our efforts in California and Indiana, other states such as Texas, Tennessee, Arizona, New Mexico and New York soon joined in and celebrated March 30, 2008 for THEIR Vietnam veterans.

I was the originator of this dream, and with my former comrades I believe the time has come to heal old wounds and change the past by what we do today. The time is also right to create a future expectation that we all owe a debt to the veterans who served in any conflict, regardless of how popular or successful the fight may be. We cannot through our neglect make victims of men and women whose sole offense was serving their country when it called. Our Iraq and Afghanistan veterans will benefit from this change in perceptions.

We at WHVVD are now preparing our celebration for 2009. We ask that you be a leader of this movement by supporting pending legislation in YOUR State that will show we in the USA show respect for the Vietnam veterans. These men and women, including the thousands of veterans in your State, served with pride and courage during one of the most difficult times in American history. Many Vietnam veterans were disparaged when they came "home" at the end of their service. I am in the process of reaching out to veterans organizations across every State, making them aware of March 30 and encouraging them to plan local events in and for their communities/veterans.

On our web site at www.whvvd.org you will find pictures of our event here in Whittier, CA. Dozens of proclamations from cities all over the country, letters from those in Congress and of course the resolutions the U.S. Congress and U.S. Senate passed. If I can offer any assistance or answer any questions you or your staff may have please feel free to contact me at our headquarters in Whittier, Ca. at 562-696-3965 or on my cell at 562-761-2681.

Sincerely, {Below is a sample of how I signed my letter. You sign yours with your name/unit, etc. But PLEASE INCLUDE THE WEB SITE and your contact information if you wish.

José G. Ramos
Chairman/Founder
www.whvvd.org
Medic, 3/506th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division
Vietnam 1967-68

YOU CAN FIND YOUR GOVERNOR AND HIS/HER ADDRESS HERE:
[Click here: All 50 American State Governor Web Sites](#)