

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the first United States Military deployment in Vietnam occurred on December 11, 1961 when troops arrived in its capital city of Saigon, and the first American combat casualty happened eleven days later; and

WHEREAS, the war in Vietnam lasted over a decade with more than three million brave and patriotic American men and women in uniform placed in harm's way, making unselfish sacrifices in the defense of freedom, and more than 58,000 of our nation's troops lost their lives, many were missing in action (MIA), and thousands returned home with physical and mental injuries, scars, post-traumatic stress, Agent Orange complications, and a non-supportive home front due to the unpopularity of the conflict which did not grant them the respect they earned and deserved; and

WHEREAS, the United States Veteran's Affairs Secretary Robert A. MacDonald has designated March 29, 2016 as **Vietnam Veterans' Day** which commemorates March 29, 1973 as the day the last American military troops left Vietnam to return home; and

WHEREAS, more than 9,000 organizations across the nation have joined with the United States Department of Defense as Commemorative Partners to honor and recognize our country's Vietnam Veterans on Tuesday, March 29, 2016, and to thank them and their families for their many sacrifices that they made on behalf of us all and in the name of liberty; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa joins in recognizing the nine million Americans who answered the call of duty and served at home in the United States, in the Vietnam theater, or were stationed around the world during this historical period; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2016 as

"VIETNAM VETERANS' DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in thanking all United States military personnel for their service to our nation, and on March 29th extend special appreciation to the approximately seven million Vietnam Veterans living today.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 24th day of March, 2016.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

