



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

- WHEREAS: Over the past decade, Georgia has officially recognized and marked the anniversary of the March 29, 1973, withdrawal of the last 2,500 American troops from South Vietnam. Many men and women that wore the uniform of our United States Armed Forces during the Vietnam War did not receive the proper respect and gratitude they deserved for their military service because of its very turbulent cultural unpopularity in America; and
- WHEREAS: Of the some 228,000 Georgians that served during this conflict, 1,582 died in combat, 8,534 were wounded, 21 were held prisoner, and 35 still remain missing or unaccounted for; and
- WHEREAS: 12 Georgia Vietnam Veterans were awarded the Medal of Honor, the highest distinction that can be bestowed by the President of the United States in the name of the U.S. Congress, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepid actions as they risked their lives and went above and beyond the call of duty. In 1990 Congress officially established March 25<sup>th</sup> as National Medal of Honor Day; and
- WHEREAS: Vietnam Veterans Day affords us an excellent opportunity to recall in a spirit of pride and gratitude the sacrifices of Georgia's Vietnam Veterans, the heroic acts of its 12 Medal of Honor recipients from the Vietnam War, and the accomplishments of all Americans who served during that most difficult conflict; and
- WHEREAS: We remember and appreciate with grateful hearts the contributions of the 254,000 Vietnam veterans now living in Georgia as well as the extraordinary bravery of all 27 of Georgia's Medal of Honor Recipients of the past 150 years; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2014, as VIETNAM VETERANS DAY in Georgia and invite all citizens, both in public ceremonies and in private thoughts and prayers, to gratefully acknowledge our Vietnam Veterans and Medal of Honor recipients.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF