



## PRESS RELEASE

Vietnam Veterans of America

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **It's Official: March 29 Is National Vietnam War Veterans Day**

**(Washington, DC)** – “Forty-two years ago today, the last American combat troops left the former South Vietnam, marking the end of what was then our nation’s longest war,” said John Rowan, National President of Vietnam Veterans of America. “And yesterday, the bipartisan legislation, S.305, authored by Senators Pat Toomey (R-Pa.) and Joe Donnelly (D-Ind.), permanently designating March 29th as National Vietnam War Veterans Day, was signed into law by President Trump.”

“*The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017* is the first federal statute to recognize in perpetuity the bravery and sacrifice of veterans who served during the Vietnam War. Although this day may be bittersweet for some of us, and though we cannot claim that the United States emerged victorious from that terribly divisive war, we can look back with pride for the service we rendered in answering our nation’s call,” said Rowan.

“Our war is long over,” Rowan added, “but for many its legacy of hurt continues to this day. Because a war does not end after the last bullet was fired, VVA will continue to assist those who still suffer, mentally as well as physically, from the war’s deprivations, and from the failures of those entities of government whose responsibility it is to aid our veterans physically, mentally, and fiscally.”

“We applaud Senators Toomey and Donnelly for their support of our Vietnam veterans and for ensuring that March 29th is permanently designated as National Vietnam War Veterans Day,” said Rowan.

*“Vietnam Veterans of America is the nation’s only congressionally chartered veterans’ service organization dedicated to the needs of Vietnam-era veterans and their families. VVA’s founding principle is “Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another.”*