

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION honoring and recognizing victims of Agent Orange during the Vietnam War.

FORD J.D.

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

Second Regular Session 122nd General Assembly (2022)

SENATE RESOLUTION _____

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION honoring and recognizing
2 victims of Agent Orange during the Vietnam War.

3 *Whereas, Agent Orange is one of a class of color-coded*
4 *herbicides that United States forces sprayed over the rural*
5 *landscape of Vietnam to defoliate trees and shrubs and destroy*
6 *crops;*

7 *Whereas, The United States Air Force began the aerial*
8 *spraying program Operation Hades, later known as Operation*
9 *Ranch Hand, in January of 1962 and continued until February*
10 *1971;*

11 *Whereas, The United States sprayed Agent Orange at a*
12 *concentration 20 times higher than recommended by the*
13 *manufacturers;*

14 *Whereas, The Red Cross estimates millions of Americans*
15 *and Vietnamese are presently affected by the wartime spraying*
16 *of Agent Orange and other herbicides;*

17 *Whereas, Agent Orange is a dioxin and cancer-causing*
18 *chemical that enters the body through physical contact or*
19 *ingestion, then moves into the human cell nucleus, where it*

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1 *attacks the genes and causes a number of serious illnesses and*
2 *birth defects;*

3 *Whereas, In the 1970s, high levels of dioxin were found in*
4 *the breast milk of South Vietnamese women and in the blood of*
5 *United States military personnel who served in Vietnam;*

6 *Whereas, Agent Orange is linked to numerous types of*
7 *cancer, including chronic B-cell leukemia, Hodgkin's*
8 *lymphoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, multiple myeloma,*
9 *prostate cancer, respiratory cancer, lung cancer, and soft tissue*
10 *sarcomas;*

11 *Whereas, Agent Orange is linked to other health conditions,*
12 *including AL amyloidosis, chloracne, diabetes mellitus type 2,*
13 *hypothyroidism, ischemic heart disease, Parkinsonism,*
14 *Parkinson's disease, early-onset peripheral neuropathy, and*
15 *porphyria cutanea tarda;*

16 *Whereas, Agent Orange is linked to birth defects in the*
17 *children of Vietnamese civilians and American veterans, which*
18 *include mental disabilities, hernias, extra digits, spina bifida,*
19 *neural tube defects, and other physical deformations;*

20 *Whereas, While fallen soldiers are memorialized on The*
21 *Wall at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.,*
22 *those veterans who were victims of Agent Orange are not*
23 *recognized as fatalities of the Vietnam War; and*

24 *Whereas, It is most appropriate that the Indiana State*
25 *Senate should honor these veterans to the full extent of its*
26 *ability, as these veterans have made untold and innumerable*
27 *sacrifices to preserve the liberties the state of Indiana enjoys*
28 *today and will continue to cherish for generations to come:*
29 *Therefore,*



1 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
2 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

3 SECTION 1. That the Indiana State Senate honors and
4 recognizes victims of Agent Orange during the Vietnam War.

5 SECTION 2. That the Secretary of the Senate is hereby
6 directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Orange
7 Heart Medal Foundation.

