

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                                   1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

4 HOUSE BILL 1814

                                  By: Proctor

7                                   AS INTRODUCED

8                   An Act relating to soldiers and sailors; creating the  
9                   Vietnam War Medallion Program; providing  
10                  qualifications of recipients; authorizing the  
11                  Governor to administer Program; requiring the  
12                  Governor to solicit designs for medallion;  
13                  authorizing certain expenditures subject to funding;  
14                  providing for codification; and providing an  
15                  effective date.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17                  SECTION 1.           NEW LAW           A new section of law to be codified  
18                  in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 50.27 of Title 72, unless there  
19                  is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20                  A.   There is hereby created the "Vietnam War Medallion Program".

21                  B.   The Oklahoma Vietnam War Medallion award shall consist of a  
22                  medallion, medal, and certificate of appreciation. A veteran shall  
23                  be eligible for the award if the veteran:

24                  1.   Was a resident of Oklahoma at the time of entering the  
                  military service of the United States;

1           2. Served in active duty in the United States Military at any  
2 time beginning February 28, 1961, through May 7, 1975; and

3           3. Was honorably separated or discharged from military service,  
4 still in active service in an honorable status, or was in active  
5 service at the time of his or her death.

6           C. The Oklahoma Vietnam War Medallion award shall be awarded  
7 regardless of whether or not such veteran served within the United  
8 States or in a foreign country. The award shall be awarded  
9 regardless of whether or not such veteran was under eighteen (18)  
10 years of age at the time of enlistment. For purposes of this  
11 section, "veteran" means any person defined as a veteran by the  
12 United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its successor  
13 agency.

14           D. The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs shall administer  
15 the Vietnam War Medallion Program and set the procedures for  
16 awarding the medallion, medal and certificate.

17           E. In order to create statewide involvement in the design of  
18 the award in recognition of this historic endeavor, the Governor  
19 shall solicit potential designs from elementary and secondary  
20 schools, veterans' groups, and any other interested parties;  
21 provided, any such design shall include the words "Oklahoma Vietnam  
22 War Medallion". The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs is  
23 authorized to expend any monies appropriated to the Oklahoma  
24

1 Department of Veterans Affairs for the cost of such medals,  
2 medallions and certificates, subject to the availability of funds.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015.  
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5 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS,  
6 dated 02/11/2015 - DO PASS.  
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