

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

4 HOUSE
5 RESOLUTION 1029

 By: Shelton

6
7
8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A House Resolution urging public schools,
10 universities and state agencies to cease displaying
11 certain flag and fly certain flag instead; and
12 directing distribution.

13 WHEREAS, public schools, universities and state agencies who
14 display the flag of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam can cause
15 great distress to many members of the Vietnamese American community;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, the flag of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, which
18 features a yellow star on a red background, was first adopted by the
19 Indochinese Communist Party in the mid-20th century and represents a
20 source of anguish to countless people who fled to the United States
21 as a welcoming haven of liberty and tolerance; to these esteemed
22 citizens, the display of this flag is interpreted as a lack of
23 respect for their historic struggles; and

1 WHEREAS, in contrast, the Heritage and Freedom Flag symbolizes
2 both the Vietnamese cultural heritage and a deeply rooted resilience
3 and yearning for democracy; this flag, which bears three red stripes
4 on a background of golden yellow, was flown for the first time at a
5 ceremony marking the official recognition by France of Vietnamese
6 unity and independence; and

7 WHEREAS, public schools, universities and state agency buildings
8 can express their respect for Vietnamese American culture and their
9 support for the ideals of liberty and democracy by replacing the
10 flag of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam with the Heritage and
11 Freedom Flag.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
13 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

14 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives urges public schools,
15 universities, and state agencies to cease displaying the red flag of
16 the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and instead fly the golden yellow
17 Heritage and Freedom Flag that has been embraced by the Vietnamese
18 American community.

19 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the State
20 Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Chancellor of the Oklahoma
21 State Regents for Higher Education, and the Director of the Oklahoma
22 Office of Management and Enterprises Services.

23
24 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.