

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE
RESOLUTION 16

By: Jett

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution recognizing May 15 as Hmong Special Guerilla Unit (SGU) Veterans Recognition Day; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Hmong Special Guerilla Unit (SGU) Veterans Recognition Day commemorates Hmong combat soldiers that served under the direction of United States military and clandestine forces from 1961-1975, in the Secret War in Laos during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the contributions Hmong veterans of America continue to make to keep our cherished liberties alive; and

WHEREAS, the Hmong SGU veterans were vital in the Secret War in Laos, providing intelligence and troops to one of the nation's largest operations, rescuing American soldiers, and blocking North Vietnam from using the Ho Chi Minh Trail to South Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that at least 35,000 Hmong SGU veterans were killed during the Secret War, and the remaining Hmong population in Laos has been a victim of ongoing retaliation, murder, and genocide since the conclusion of the war; and

1 WHEREAS, on May 14, 1975, the last American Central Intelligence
2 Agency personnel withdrew from Laos, and the Hmong veterans and
3 their families began their journey to new beginnings; and

4 WHEREAS, these veterans and their families were provided with
5 political asylum, refugee status, and citizenship because of their
6 unique contribution to the United States.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
8 OF THE 59TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

9 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate recognizes May 15 as Hmong
10 Special Guerilla Unit (SGU) Veterans Recognition Day in Oklahoma.

11 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma
12 Hmong Association President Cher J. Lor and Mrs. Moua Yang; the Lao
13 Veterans Association; the National Hmong Associations; Hmong 18 Clan
14 Council President Pao Vang; Hmong Cannabis Association President
15 Thomas Herr; and the Hmong Oklahoma Cannabis Association.

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