
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 745 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY BARBIN, READSHAW, SAINATO, D. COSTA, MARSICO,
COHEN, HENNESSEY, ROZZI, MURT, KOTIK, MILLARD, CALTAGIRONE,
LONGIETTI, THOMAS, DRISCOLL, RAPP, WATSON, HAHN, JOZWIAK,
NEILSON, ELLIS, PAYNE, WHEELAND, SONNEY, MAHONEY, A. HARRIS,
MILNE, COX, HARHART AND GOODMAN, MARCH 18, 2016

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, MARCH 18, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging the United States Department of Defense to include
2 the names of the fallen sailors of the Destroyer USS Frank E.
3 Evans (DD-754) on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

4 WHEREAS, On March 26, 1969, the officers and men of the USS
5 Frank E. Evans (DD-754) departed Long Beach for the Western
6 Pacific to carry out the operational orders of their commander
7 in chief during a time of war with North Vietnam; and

8 WHEREAS, On June 3, 1969, the USS Frank E. Evans (DD-754),
9 while on an allied naval exercise during the Vietnam War,
10 collided with the Australian aircraft carrier, the HMAS
11 Melbourne (R21) in the South China Sea, near the coast of
12 Vietnam; and

13 WHEREAS, The collision severed the ship into two sections,
14 with the forward section sinking in less than three minutes,
15 taking the lives of 74 American sailors; and

16 WHEREAS, Members of the United States Armed Forces who died

1 during the Vietnam War have been memorialized by placing the
2 names on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, so
3 long as they died within the combat zone; and

4 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Defense maintains
5 the men who died as a result of the sinking of the USS Frank E.
6 Evans (DD-754) do not meet the criteria for inclusion on the
7 Vietnam Veterans Memorial since the accident occurred outside
8 the combat zone, and continues to deny the placement of the
9 names of the 74 lost sailors on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The Vietnam War combat zone boundaries were ill
12 defined and have been changed from time to time and should not
13 be the defining reason to exclude the names of the lost sailors
14 from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; and

15 WHEREAS, Other members of the United States Armed Forces who
16 have died outside the Vietnam War combat zone have had their
17 names placed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
19 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania encourage the United States
20 Department of Defense to include the names of the 74 sailors
21 from the USS Frank E. Evans (DD-754) on the Vietnam Veterans
22 Memorial; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives fully support an
24 immediate favorable decision by the United States Department of
25 Defense to make an exception to its criteria in order to include
26 those names on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.