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107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 88

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the President should issue a proclamation recognizing a National Lao-Hmong Recognition Day.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 27, 2001

Mr. TANCREDO submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

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CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the President should issue a proclamation recognizing a National Lao-Hmong Recognition Day.

Whereas the Lao-Hmong, which means ''free people'', are Laotian members of the Hmong tribe and are noted for their warrior tradition, loyalty, and bravery;

Whereas beginning in 1960 the United States recruited thousands of the Lao-Hmong to fight against the Communist Pathet Lao and North Vietnamese Army regulars in Laos;

Whereas the United States relied heavily on the Lao-Hmong Special Guerrilla Units to engage in direct combat with North Vietnamese troops from 1960 to 1975;

Whereas the Lao-Hmong conducted tactical guerrilla actions, flew thousands of deadly combat missions in support of the Armed Forces and the Central Intelligence Agency, and fought in conventional and guerrilla combat clashes with extreme casualties;

Whereas the Lao-Hmong, although outnumbered, fought against enemy forces to disrupt the flow of troops and war supplies along the Ho Chi Minh Trail;

Whereas the Lao-Hmong protected United States personnel, guarded United States Air Force radar installations, gathered critical intelligence about enemy operations, and undertook rescue missions to save the lives of downed United States pilots;

Whereas more than 35,000 of the Lao-Hmong lost their lives defending the democratic way of life, and many more were seriously injured and disabled;

Whereas thousands of Lao-Hmong suffered grievous injuries and permanent disabilities, and thousands more were captured and sent to Communist concentration camps;

Whereas after the conclusion of the war, many Lao-Hmong soldiers were the victims of acts of retribution and atrocities by the Pathet Lao, causing many of the Lao-Hmong to flee to neighboring Thailand and become refugees; and

Whereas beginning with the City Council of Golden, Colorado, in 1995, various State and local governments have issued proclamations declaring July 22 as Lao-Hmong Recognition Day, and the establishment of a National Lao-Hmong Recognition Day would recognize the bravery, sacrifice, and loyalty to the United States exhibited by the Lao-Hmong in Southeast Asia: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that the President should issue a proclamation—

(1) recognizing a National Lao-Hmong Recognition Day; and

(2) calling on the people of the United States to recognize the service and sacrifice of men and women of the Lao-Hmong with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

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