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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. CON. RES. \_\_\_\_\_

Expressing the approval of Congress for the awards ceremony to be held at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the return of the United States prisoners of war of the Vietnam war and in recognition of the extraordinary service and sacrifices of such prisoners of war during the Vietnam War.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the approval of Congress for the awards ceremony to be held at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the return of the United States prisoners of war of the Vietnam war and in recognition of the extraordinary service and sacrifices of such prisoners of war during the Vietnam War.

Whereas the awards ceremony is to be held on May 23, 2023, at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum to celebrate the 50 year anniversary of the release of Vietnam prisoners of war at the end of the Vietnam war;

Whereas more than 2,700,000 members of the United States Armed Forces served in the Vietnam war;

Whereas more than 58,000 members of the United States Armed Forces lost their lives and 153,000 were wounded;

Whereas during the conflict, approximately 766 members of the United States Armed Forces were taken captive as prisoners of war by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and their allies;

Whereas many of the prisoners of war were Naval and Air Force aviators shot down over the jungles of North Vietnam, and during their captivity, they endured brutal conditions, including torture, forced labor, and prolonged solitary confinement;

Whereas prisoners of war were held in more than a dozen prisons throughout North Vietnam, including in the famous prison camp known as the “Hanoi Hilton”, but despite the challenging conditions, many of the Vietnam prisoners of war maintained their honor, resilience, and loyalty to their country and fellow members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas the return of the prisoners of war was a nonnegotiable condition for President Richard Nixon as his administration negotiated an end to the Vietnam war;

Whereas the Paris Peace Accords were signed on January 27, 1973, ending United States involvement in Vietnam and requiring the return of the prisoners of war within 60 days of the signing of the agreement;

Whereas, between February and March 1973, 591 members of the United States Armed Forces were released by the North Vietnamese;

Whereas more than 114 prisoners of war died in captivity;

Whereas the return of the Vietnam prisoners of war had a tremendous effect on the formation of the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) movement in the United States, which is headed by the National League of POW/MIA Families;

Whereas, in 1972, the National League of POW/MIA Families adopted the National POW/MIA Flag, which flies over Federal buildings, including the Capitol Building, on days the United States flag is flown; and

Whereas, 50 years after they gained their freedom, the resilience, courage, and patriotism of the Vietnam prisoners of war continues to inspire generations of United States citizens: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
2 *concurring)*, That Congress expresses approval for the  
3 awards ceremony to be held at the Richard Nixon Presi-  
4 dential Library and Museum in celebration of the 50th  
5 anniversary of the return of the United States prisoners  
6 of war of the Vietnam war and in recognition of the ex-  
7 traordinary service and sacrifices of such prisoners of war  
8 during the Vietnam War.