WHEREAS; while the conflict has its roots as far back as the 1800s, the Vietnam War as it is known today began in the 1950s as a struggle between North Vietnam and its allies and South Vietnam, supported by its own ally nations, including the United States; and

WHEREAS; the first American ground combat units arrived in Vietnam in March 1965, and the United States' involvement lasted until the capture of the city of Saigon by the North Vietnamese on April 30, 1975; and

WHEREAS; more than 165,400 service members from Wisconsin bravely served the United States during the Vietnam War, and over 1,200 Wisconsinites made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country; and

WHEREAS; it is essential to acknowledge the thousands of Hmong-Lao people who courageously fought alongside Americans throughout the Vietnam War and that Wisconsin is home to a significant number of Hmong-Lao veterans who were forced to flee their homelands following the war's end; and

WHEREAS; March 29th of every year is designated as a day to express the state's deep gratitude for veterans of the Vietnam War and to thank them for their service and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in honoring the dedication, resilience, and selflessness of all individuals who bravely served the nation during the Vietnam War, as well as the sacrifices of their families and loved ones;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim March 29 2025 as

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 18th day of March 2025.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State