

# SENATE BILL 80

P1

EMERGENCY BILL

5lr1092  
CF 5lr2915

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By: ~~Senator Astle~~ Senators Astle, Conway, Pinsky, Bates, Kagan, Montgomery, Nathan-Pulliam, Rosapepe, Salling, Simonaire, Waugh, and Young Young, Benson, Brochin, Cassilly, Currie, DeGrange, Eckardt, Edwards, Feldman, Ferguson, Gladden, Guzzone, Hershey, Hough, Jennings, Kasemeyer, Kelley, King, Klausmeier, Lee, Madaleno, Manno, Mathias, McFadden, Middleton, Miller, Muse, Norman, Peters, Pugh, Ramirez, Raskin, Ready, Reilly, Serafini, and Zirkin

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2015

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: February 12, 2015

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Provisions – Commemorative Days – Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans**  
3 **Day**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a certain day as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day in  
5 recognition of the service and sacrifice of Vietnam veterans; making this Act an  
6 emergency measure; and generally relating to Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans  
7 Day.

8 BY renumbering

9 Article – General Provisions

10 Section 7–402 through 7–413, respectively

11 to be Section 7–403 through 7–414, respectively

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2014 Volume)

14 BY adding to

15 Article – General Provisions

16 Section 7–402

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

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### EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (2014 Volume)

2 Preamble

3 WHEREAS, The Vietnam War was fought in Vietnam from 1961 to 1975, and  
4 involved North Vietnam and the Viet Cong in conflict with United States armed forces,  
5 allies of the United States, and South Vietnam; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1965, more than 129,000 members of the United States armed forces  
7 were serving in Vietnam, reaching a peak of approximately 543,000 by 1969; and

8 WHEREAS, On January 27, 1973, an agreement was reached to end the war and, on  
9 March 30, 1973, the United States armed forces completed its withdrawal of combat troops;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, More than 58,000 members of the United States armed forces, including  
12 1,014 from the State of Maryland, lost their lives in Vietnam and more than 300,000  
13 members were wounded; and

14 WHEREAS, Members of the United States armed forces who served bravely and  
15 faithfully for the United States during the Vietnam War were caught on their return home  
16 in the crossfire of an extremely divisive public debate about the involvement of the United  
17 States in the Vietnam War, which deprived many of those members of public support and  
18 appreciation of their patriotic service; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated in the District  
20 of Columbia to commemorate those members of the United States armed forces who died  
21 or were declared missing-in-action in the Vietnam War; and

22 WHEREAS, The designation of a “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day” is an  
23 appropriate way for the State to thank and honor its members of the United States armed  
24 forces for their service and sacrifice during the Vietnam War; now, therefore,

25 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
26 That Section(s) 7–402 through 7–413, respectively, of Article – General Provisions of the  
27 Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7–403 through 7–414,  
28 respectively.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read  
30 as follows:

31 **Article – General Provisions**

32 **7–402.**

33 **MARCH 30 SHALL BE WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY IN**  
34 **RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF VIETNAM VETERANS.**

1 ~~SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect~~  
2 ~~October 1, 2015.~~

3 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
4 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has  
5 been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to  
6 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is  
7 enacted.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.