

House Concurrent Resolution No. 5016

By Representative Fawcett

2-16

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the United States Congress to
2 extend equal benefits for the treatment of Agent Orange exposure to
3 Vietnam veterans who served outside of Vietnam.

4 *WHEREAS, Thousands of veterans of the Vietnam War suffer from the*
5 *effects of exposure to Agent Orange, a powerful and toxic defoliant used*
6 *to clear areas of dense vegetation used as enemy hideouts; and*

7 *WHEREAS, Agent Orange exposure causes a variety of devastating*
8 *health effects, such as increased rates of cancer, immune system*
9 *disorders and genetic maladies which lead to birth defects in the children*
10 *of those exposed; and*

11 *WHEREAS, Although the use of Agent Orange is most commonly*
12 *associated with the country of Vietnam, it was also used extensively in*
13 *surrounding areas such as Thailand; and*

14 *WHEREAS, Many veterans affected by exposure to Agent Orange*
15 *proudly and bravely served their country in these surrounding areas*
16 *without ever actually setting foot in Vietnam itself; and*

17 *WHEREAS, These veterans are struggling to obtain the same medical*
18 *benefits to deal with their exposure as those who served on the ground in*
19 *Vietnam: Now, therefore,*

20 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas,*
21 *the Senate concurring therein: That the Congress of the United States is*
22 *urged to work with the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that*
23 *Vietnam veterans who served in areas surrounding Vietnam itself are able*
24 *to receive the same medical benefits for the treatment of Agent Orange*
25 *exposure as those who served within the country's borders; and*

26 *Be it further resolved: That the Chief Clerk of the House of*
27 *Representatives shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to*
28 *Representative Fawcett.*