

As Amended by House Committee

Session of 2011

House Concurrent Resolution No. 5016

By Representative Fawcett

2-16

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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