

MAR 13 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF
HONOLULU TO HONOR "GENERAL" JOHN ROGERS FOR DEDICATED
SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY.

1 WHEREAS, "General" John H. Rogers' dedication to his
2 country, the active duty and retired military community, and
3 others, has inspired others to live up to standards and
4 traditions for which Americans are known and respected for
5 around the world; and
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7 WHEREAS, "General" Rogers has worked tirelessly to ease the
8 suffering of those unfortunate children who were directly
9 affected during and after the conflict in Vietnam, where he
10 served in the United States Army from 1967 to 1972; and
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12 WHEREAS, when Saigon fell in 1975, "General" Rogers, whose
13 wife and daughter are Vietnamese, was in the United States and
14 lost track of his daughter; and
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16 WHEREAS, his daughter, Gloria Jean Rogers, was reunited
17 with "General" Rogers in a subsequent trip to Vietnam in search
18 of her, and now lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and
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20 WHEREAS, on his 1988 trip to Vietnam to find Gloria, he
21 discovered the plight of American-Asian children that were
22 fathered by American servicemen and orphaned by the war; and
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24 WHEREAS, in compassion for these children, "General" Rogers
25 founded FACES-USA (Foundation for Amerasian Children Emergency
26 Support), and established orphanages and safe houses for
27 American-Asian children, who had been living as beggars on the
28 streets of Saigon and other large cities; and
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30 WHEREAS, after opening the first halfway house for
31 American-Asian children in Ho Chi Minh City on May 2, 1989,
32 "General" Rogers became known as the "Pied Piper of Vietnam",
33 and was applauded by President George H.W. Bush and the United
34 States Department of State for his efforts to improve the
35 welfare of American-Asians in Vietnam; and



1
2 WHEREAS, since the end of the war in 1975, "General" Rogers
3 appeared on numerous national television broadcasts for his
4 humanitarian work for Vietnamese-Americans, veterans, and
5 homeless persons, including NBC's "Today Show" FOX's "Inside
6 Edition", and many local affiliates of ABC, CBS, NBC, and FOX,
7 as well as television programs in Australia, France, Germany,
8 Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines, and Spain, as well as been
9 the subject of newspaper reports on his efforts; and

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11 WHEREAS, inspired by the World War I Veterans Bonus March
12 and the 1995 Million Man March, "General" Rogers brought
13 together private corporations, concerned individuals, and
14 national and grass roots veterans organizations nationwide, for
15 the inaugural National Veterans Rights March / Rally in 1996,
16 which saw the participation of hundreds of thousands of
17 veterans; and

18
19 WHEREAS, "General" Rogers founded BRAVO HAWAII, the Hawaii
20 chapter of the Brotherhood Rally of All Veterans Organizations,
21 and collaborated with agencies and other groups in organizing
22 humanitarian activities and programs to support veterans, such
23 as "Picnic in the Park", "Stand Downs", and weekly meals for
24 homeless veterans and the homeless at Fort DeRussy Beach; and

25
26 WHEREAS, on April 26, 1997, "General" Rogers opened
27 Hawaii's first ever "Homeless Veterans Transitional Center", in
28 Wahiawa for homeless veterans, their spouses, and children who
29 have fallen on hard times, to give them a hand up, not a hand
30 out, and preserve their sense of their own human dignity; and

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32 WHEREAS, past governors of Hawaii and mayors of the City
33 and County of Honolulu have honored "General" Rogers for his
34 humanitarian work; and

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36 WHEREAS, "General" Rogers produced and hosted a monthly
37 community television program called "BRAVO HAWAII VETERANS TALK,
38 BRINGING VETERANS TOGETHER" to discuss veterans and military
39 related issues, activities, and programs; and

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41 WHEREAS, the third of eleven children and a native of
42 Oxford, Mississippi, "General" Rogers served in the Army for
43 twenty-two years, retired on June 1, 1988 as a Master Sergeant,
44 and earned several awards and decorations, including the Bronze



1 Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal
2 and Vietnam Service Medal with six campaign stars; and

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4 WHEREAS, on January 10, 1994, "General" Rogers was invited
5 by Congressman Lucien E. Blackwell of Pennsylvania to join him
6 and members of Congress on fact finding mission to the
7 Philippines pursuant to House Resolution 2013, "Commission on
8 Filipino War World II Veterans" and House Resolution 2429, "The
9 Philippines Amerasians Act of 1993"; and

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11 WHEREAS, "General" Rogers has received several
12 proclamations from the governor of Hawaii and the Mayor of
13 Honolulu, and governors of twelve states, for "Amerasians
14 Awareness Day" in their states, now therefore,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-Seventh
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,
18 that the Mayor and Council of the City and County of Honolulu
19 are requested to recognize and honor "General" John H. Rogers,
20 Jr. for his tireless dedication and efforts to humanitarian
21 causes by placing a plaque in the place where he waved his flag
22 to remind others of the ideals and compassionate acts for which
23 America stands; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor and Council of the City
27 and County of Honolulu.

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OFFERED BY:

