

CITY OF YAKIMA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War was fought from 1961 to 1975, and involved North Vietnam and the Vietcong in conflict with United States Armed Forces and South Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, on March 30, 1973, the United States Armed Forces completed the withdrawal of combat troops from Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War was an extremely divisive issue among people in the United States, and the members of the United States Armed Forces who served bravely and faithfully were, upon their return home, caught in the middle of public debate about involvement of the United States in the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, there were 1,123 members of the United States Armed Forces from Washington State killed or missing in action and more than 171,980 Vietnam-era veterans who live in Washington. Our nation stands together for their service; and

WHEREAS, the people of Yakima, Washington realize that one of our most fundamental obligations is to show respect and dignity to all who have worn the uniform of the United States, and to honor their sacrifice by serving them as well as they served us; and

WHEREAS, Washington passed legislation which was signed by Governor Jay Inslee in 2013 proclaiming March 30 of each year as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day in our State; and

WHEREAS, the Yakima Warriors Association Veterans group of Toppenish has held annual ceremonies honoring Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans with keynote speakers, wreath laying, full military honors, 21-gun salute and taps at the Korean-Vietnam memorial within Sarg Hubbard Park,

NOW THEREFORE, I, Janice Deccio, Mayor of the City of Yakima and behalf of the Yakima City Council, do hereby proclaim March 30, 2023 as

"WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY"

in the City of Yakima and encourage all residents to honor all Vietnam Veterans.

Dated this 21st day of March, 2023

Janice Deccio, Mayor