



1 it attacks the genes and causes a number of serious illnesses, including leukemia, lymphoma,  
2 myeloma, ischemic heart disease, soft tissue sarcoma, amyloidosis, diabetes, and cancers of  
3 the throat, prostate, lung, and colon; and

4 WHEREAS, Agent Orange also causes genetic damage, and in some cases, the  
5 children and grandchildren of veterans exposed to Agent Orange have been born with spina  
6 bifida and other abnormalities; and

7 WHEREAS, today, only eight hundred thousand Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent  
8 Orange are alive, and approximately three hundred deaths occur among them every day; and

9 WHEREAS, while fallen comrades are memorialized at the Vietnam Veterans  
10 Memorial in Washington, D.C., those veterans who are victims of Agent Orange are not  
11 recognized as fatalities of the Vietnam War; and

12 WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that we should honor these veterans to the full  
13 extent of our ability, as they have made untold and innumerable sacrifices to preserve the  
14 liberties we enjoy today and that our progeny will hopefully continue to cherish for  
15 generations to come.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
17 memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to establish a  
18 commemorative military service medal to be known as the "Agent Orange Veterans Service  
19 Medal" to honor and recognize the victims of Agent Orange during the Vietnam War for  
20 their courageous service to our nation as some of America's most heroic citizens.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
22 presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States  
23 Congress and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

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#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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