



## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

# RIVETS

## OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

Daniel J. McKee **Governor**

Kasim J. Yarn **Director**

May 13, 2021

The Honorable Samuel Azzinaro  
Chair, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
via email: [rep-azzinaro@rilegislature.gov](mailto:rep-azzinaro@rilegislature.gov)  
via email: [HouseVeteransAffairs@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseVeteransAffairs@rilegislature.gov)

RE: H-6285 House Resolution Creating a Special Legislative Commission to Study and Make Recommendations for a Plan and the Design of a Vietnam Memorial

Dear Chairman Azzinaro:

I write today with respect to H-6285, which would create a commission to study and make recommendation for a plan and design of a Vietnam Memorial in Providence, Rhode Island. More than 2.7 million United States Armed Forces personnel served in Vietnam from 1965 to 1975, with approximately 21,000 members of the Armed Forces from Rhode Island serving during the Vietnam War. More than 200 Rhode Islanders did not return home from that conflict, and their families, friends and loved ones still feel the loss to this day.

Vietnam Veterans were often not welcomed home in the same manner as those who served in other wars. While the Vietnam War was unpopular the time and has a complex history, the brave Americans who served in Vietnam should be fully supported and honored.

A commission to study and provide recommendation for a plan to fund, design and erect a Vietnam Memorial in the City of Providence, Rhode Island, honors their bravery and ensures they are not forgotten.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter and for your leadership and advocacy for Rhode Island Veterans and their families.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. J. Yarn".

Kasim J. Yarn  
Director

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
Nicole McCarthy, Esquire, Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House