



Guy Barnett MP

LIBERAL MEMBER FOR LYONS

Notice of Motion

Mr Guy Barnett MP [*Member for Lyons*] to move—That the House:—

- (1) Recognises that Friday, August 18, is Vietnam Veterans Day, an annual day of remembrance for those who served during the Vietnam War;
- (2) Notes that this day, originally known as Long Tan Day, commemorates the day in 1966 when the battle of Long Tan was fought by the men of D Company, 6th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR);
- (3) Further notes that this day, first commemorated in 1969 with the raising of a cross at the battlefield by the men of 6RAR, has since been adopted to cover all veterans who served in the Vietnam War—the longest conflict in Australia’s history;
- (4) Pays tribute to the almost 60 000 Australians who served in Vietnam between May 1962 and April 1975, including 521 who paid the ultimate price and more than 3 000 who were wounded;
- (5) Acknowledges the service of the approximately 1 800 Tasmanians who served in Vietnam, including 17 who died in their country’s service;
- (6) Notes commemorative service and wreath-laying ceremonies will be held across Tasmania to mark the event, including at St Helens on Friday, hosted by the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (East Coast Sub-branch) of which I am honoured to be Patron, and thanks all involved with the branch, including President Gary Graham, Secretary Debbie Shields and other members of the Executive for their efforts in supporting Vietnam veterans on the East Coast over the years;
- (7) Honours the service and sacrifice of all those who fought for freedom in this conflict and remembers the motto of the VVAA: “Honour the Dead but Fight like Hell for the Living.”

(17 August 2017)