

The Vietnam War In Memory Memorial, Inc.

, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Email:

/ Telephone

Dear Friends:

All of us with The Vietnam War In Memory Memorial, Inc. are pleased to be able to share some good news!

On November 10, the eve of Veterans Day, Rep. Elton Gallegly of California and a bipartisan group of 104 Representatives from 40 states and two territories introduced an "In Memory" bill in the House of Representatives. The bill, designated as HR 3293, authorizes placement of a plaque within the grounds of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in memory of veterans whose postwar deaths are attributed to their service but whose names are not on The Wall.

"They deserve to be recognized for their sacrifice," Gallegly said when announcing the bill. "Perhaps more importantly, their families deserve a symbol of healing, something they can touch and remember."

Over the years, many of you have asked what more you can do to help. Now, in order to move the bill forward in congress, there is essential work to do. We must increase our grassroots campaign.

Please take some time to write, call, email or fax your congressmen or women at their local or Washington DC offices and tell them you are in favor of HR 3293 authorizing the plaque in memory of these veterans. Urge them to become co-sponsors, if they have not already done so. The bill number, HR 3293, is very important! With 20% of the House already on board as original co-sponsors, there still is only one chance in five that your Representative is among them. If your Representative already supports the In Memory plaque bill, your message will serve to reaffirm his or her decision.

In anticipation of future Senate action, please request your United States Senators to help work for the In Memory plaque, as well.

Sample letters and more information, including the bill's text with the names of the original co-sponsors can be found on the In Memory website:

<http://members.aol.com/vietwarmem/plaque.htm>

Please copy and share this letter with others who may help move the In Memory plaque project ahead. Consider making it a part of your holiday letters and cards. We must demonstrate grassroots strength to Congress, and letters do work! Rep. Gallegly was moved to introduce HR 3293 after he was contacted about In Memory by one of his constituents. You'll find sample letters to Representatives and Senators enclosed.

Although few of us have met, with each passing day it looks more possible that we'll soon be able to join in celebrating the dedication of the In Memory memorial plaque at The Wall.

Thank you,

Ruth Coder Fitzgerald, President, Vietnam War In Memory Memorial, Inc.