

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 8, 2015  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 18, 2015  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**House Resolution**

**No. 4**

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**Introduced by Assembly Members ~~Campos and Campos, Chu, and~~  
Daly**  
*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Calderon, Low, Mullin, and Williams)*

January 5, 2015

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House Resolution No. 4—Relative to Black April Memorial Week.

1 WHEREAS, April 30, 2015, marks the 40th anniversary of the  
2 fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, to communism; and  
3 WHEREAS, For many Vietnam and Vietnam-era veterans who  
4 were directly involved in the war and Vietnamese Americans who  
5 have settled in the United States, the Vietnam War was a tragedy  
6 full of great suffering and the loss of American, Vietnamese, and  
7 Southeast Asian lives; and  
8 WHEREAS, Fifty-eight thousand one hundred sixty-nine people  
9 were killed and 304,000 were wounded out of the 2.59 million  
10 people who served in the Vietnam War. One out of every 10  
11 Americans who served in Vietnam became a casualty of war; and  
12 WHEREAS, After the fall of Saigon, over 135,000 Vietnamese  
13 people and their families fled to the United States, including former  
14 military personnel, government officials, and those who had  
15 worked for the United States during the war; and  
16 WHEREAS, Thousands of people took boats in order to leave  
17 Vietnam in the late 1970s to mid-1980s. The successful emigrants  
18 reached refugee camps in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the

1 Philippines, and Hong Kong; while approximately one-half of the  
2 people fleeing Vietnam perished at sea; and

3 WHEREAS, According to the United States Census for 2010,  
4 more than 465,000 Vietnamese live in California, with the largest  
5 concentration of Vietnamese found outside of Vietnam residing  
6 in ~~Orange County~~; *County and Santa Clara County*; and

7 WHEREAS, Human rights, religious freedom, democracy, and  
8 protection against threats of aggression are important concerns of  
9 Vietnamese Americans; and

10 WHEREAS, We must teach our children and future generations  
11 important lessons from the Vietnam War, including how the plight  
12 of the Vietnamese refugees following the end of war serves as a  
13 powerful example of the values of freedom and democracy; and

14 WHEREAS, We, the people of California, should actively  
15 rededicate ourselves to the principles of human rights, individual  
16 freedom, sovereignty, and equal protection under the laws of a just  
17 and democratic world. Californians should set aside moments of  
18 time every year on April 30 to give remembrance to the soldiers,  
19 medical personnel, and civilians who died during the Vietnam War  
20 in pursuit of freedom; and

21 WHEREAS, Vietnamese American communities throughout  
22 California will commemorate April 30, 2015, as Black April, a  
23 day of remembrance and rededication to the principles of freedom,  
24 including freedom of expression, freedom of press, and Internet  
25 freedom; now, therefore, be it

26 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That in  
27 recognition of the great tragedy and suffering and lives lost during  
28 the Vietnam War, the week of April 23, 2015, to April 30, 2015,  
29 inclusive, shall be proclaimed Black April Memorial Week, a  
30 special time for Californians to remember the countless lives lost  
31 during the Vietnam War era, and to hope for more justice and  
32 liberty for the people of Vietnam; and be it further

33 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
34 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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