
THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 119
Author: Ta (R), et al.
Introduced: 1/12/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Black April Memorial Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims the month of April 2026 as Black April Memorial Month and encourage the Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag to be flown throughout the state.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) For many Vietnam and Vietnam-era veterans who were directly involved in the war and Vietnamese Americans who have settled in the United States, the Vietnam War was a tragedy full of great suffering and loss of American, Vietnamese, and Southeast Asian lives.
- 2) The combined United States and South Vietnamese fatalities among military personnel during the Vietnam War reached more than one-half million, with approximately 800,000 additional troops being wounded in combat. Millions of Vietnamese civilians suffered casualties and death as a result of the extended conflict.
- 3) In the late 1970s to mid-1980s, thousands of Vietnamese risked their lives by fleeing Vietnam aboard small wooden boats. These emigrants reached refugee camps in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Hong Kong, while approximately one-half of the people fleeing Vietnam in search of freedom and democracy perished at sea.
- 4) Today, more than 600,000 Vietnamese residents live in California, with the largest concentration of Vietnamese residents found outside of Vietnam residing in the County of Orange.

- 5) Human rights, religious freedom, democracy, and protection against threats of aggression are important concerns of Vietnamese Americans and Vietnamese communities worldwide stemming from abuse of human rights that continue to occur in Vietnam in the areas of child labor, human trafficking, religious and political persecution, suppression of the press, unlawful deprivation of life, forced disappearances, and land seizure, among others.
- 6) Vietnamese American communities throughout California will commemorate April 30, 2026, as Black April, a day of remembrance and rededication to the principles of freedom, including freedom of religion, freedom of expression, freedom of the press, and internet freedom.

This resolution recognizes the 51st anniversary of the Fall of Saigon, and encourages that the Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag, which is recognized by the state of California as a symbol of the Vietnamese community's continued struggle for freedom and liberty for the people of Vietnam, be flown throughout the state.

Related/Prior Legislation

SR 106 (Cortese, 2026) – Adopted in Senate.

ACR 6 (Ta, Resolution Chapter 52, Statutes of 2025)

SCR 100 (Nguyen, Resolution Chapter 124, Statutes of 2024)

SCR 8 (Nguyen, Resolution Chapter 52, Statutes of 2023)

ACR 5 (Ta, Resolution Chapter 48, Statutes of 2023)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/8/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/8/26)

None received

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