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State of Minnesota

Printed **363**  
Page No.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SEVENTH  
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **2629**

March 1, 2012

Authored by Anderson, B.,

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Veterans Services Division

March 7, 2012

Adoption of Report: Pass and Read Second Time

- 1.1 A resolution
- 1.2 memorializing Congress and the President of the United States to formally recognize
- 1.3 the Khmer Freedom Fighters.
- 1.4 WHEREAS, the state of Minnesota recognizes the Khmer Freedom Fighters of Cambodia
- 1.5 for supporting and defending the United States military forces during the conflict in Southeast
- 1.6 Asia and their continued support and defense of the United States of America and all other free
- 1.7 nations of the world; and
- 1.8 WHEREAS, the Khmer veterans, who are also known as the Khmer Freedom Fighters,
- 1.9 rescued United States pilots shot down in enemy-controlled territory and returned them to
- 1.10 safety; and
- 1.11 WHEREAS, the Khmer Freedom Fighters retrieved and prevented secret and sensitive
- 1.12 information, technology, and equipment from falling into enemy hands; and
- 1.13 WHEREAS, the Khmer Freedom Fighters fought and died with United States military
- 1.14 forces during this time of conflict; and
- 1.15 WHEREAS, the Khmer Freedom Fighters captured and destroyed enemy supplies and
- 1.16 otherwise prevented them from being used by enemy forces to kill United States military forces;
- 1.17 and
- 1.18 WHEREAS, the Khmer Freedom Fighters gathered and provided intelligence about enemy
- 1.19 troop positions, movement, and strength to United States military forces; and
- 1.20 WHEREAS, the Khmer Freedom Fighters provided food, shelter, and support to United
- 1.21 States military forces; and

2.1 WHEREAS, the Khmer Freedom Fighters facilitated the evacuation of the United States  
2.2 Embassy in Phnom Penh on April 12, 1975; and

2.3 WHEREAS, the Khmer Freedom Fighters are still subject to intimidation, ridicule,  
2.4 discrimination, and death if identified in Cambodia today; and

2.5 WHEREAS, veterans of the Khmer Serei and the Khmer National Armed Forces defended  
2.6 human rights, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and freedom of representation and  
2.7 association, as well as life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

2.8 WHEREAS, the Khmer Freedom Fighters have never received official recognition from the  
2.9 United States government for their heroic efforts and support; NOW, THEREFORE,

2.10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it officially affirms  
2.11 and recognizes the Khmer Freedom Fighters and the Cambodian people for their support and  
2.12 defense of United States military forces, freedom, and democracy in Southeast Asia, and urges  
2.13 the President and the Congress of the United States and all other state legislatures in the United  
2.14 States to do the same.

2.15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota is  
2.16 directed to prepare copies of this memorial and transmit them to the President of the United States,  
2.17 the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Clerk of the  
2.18 United States House of Representatives, the presiding officers of both houses of the legislatures of  
2.19 each of the other states of the union, and Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.