



## **H.Res. 326 – Commemorating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial**

### **Floor Situation**

H.Res. 326 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Darlene Hooley (D-OR) on April 20, 2007. The bill was referred to the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Natural Resources, but was never considered.

H.Res. 326 is expected to be considered by the House of Representatives on September 18, 2007.

### **Summary**

H.Res. 326 commemorates the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Further, H.Res. 326 honors the sacrifice of the men and women who lost their lives in service to the United States during the Vietnam War. It also recognizes the service of all the men and women who were members of the United States Armed Forces during the Vietnam War.

### **Background**

The Memorial was established by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., a nonprofit, charitable organization incorporated on April 27, 1979, by a group of Vietnam veterans led by Jan C. Scruggs, a wounded and decorated infantryman, from Bowie, Maryland.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Inc. raised more than \$8,000,000 for the construction of the Memorial. All of the funds raised came from private sources.

On July 1, 1980, Congress authorized a site of three acres in Constitution Gardens near the Lincoln Memorial. In October of that year, the Memorial Fund announced a national design competition open to any U.S. citizen over 18 years of age. By December 29, 1981, there were 2,573 registrants, and the competition became the largest of its kind ever held in the United States. The winner was Maya Ying Lin of Athens, Ohio, a 21-year-old senior at Yale University, who had designed a wall as a permanent Vietnam Memorial.

Ground was formally broken on Friday, March 26, 1982 and the Wall was given as a gift to the American people in 1984.

The Wall currently has more than 58,000 names inscribed along the length of it. The Wall has come to be a place of mourning, memory, and celebration of life for the brave men and women who gave their lives in defense of this nation.

**Cost**

At the time of printing the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) had not scored this legislation.

**Staff Contact**

For questions or further information contact Luke Hatzis at (202) 226-2302.