



2013 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 74

November 25, 2013 – Introduced by Representatives WRIGHT, BILLINGS, BARNES, BERNARD SCHABER, BERNIER, DOYLE, GOYKE, JORGENSEN, KAHL, MURTHA, A. OTT, POPE, PRIDEMORE, SHANKLAND, SPIROS, THIESFELDT and TITTL, cosponsored by Senators SHILLING, CARPENTER, COWLES, T. CULLEN, GROTHMAN, HANSEN, HARRIS, C. LARSON, LEHMAN, PETROWSKI, RISSER, SCHULTZ and L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** the lives and services of General Vang Pao and Mrs. General Vang Pao.

2 Whereas, General Vang Pao was born on December 8, 1929, and died on
3 January 6, 2011, and his wife, Mrs. General Vang Pao, May Song Vang, was born on
4 February 5, 1951, and died on August 5, 2013; and

5 Whereas, General Vang Pao participated in the resistance efforts after the
6 Japanese invaded and occupied French Indochina in World War II; and

7 Whereas, after World War II, General Vang Pao was recruited by the French to
8 combat the Viet Minh and the Communist Pathet Lao; and

9 Whereas, General Vang Pao was the only ethnic Hmong to attain the rank of
10 general in the Royal Lao Army; and

11 Whereas, General Vang Pao commanded the Royal Lao Military Region 2, a
12 special guerrilla unit, from 1960 to 1975 with support and training from the U.S.
13 Central Intelligence Agency; and

1 Whereas, General Vang Pao’s army saved hundreds of American pilots whose
2 planes were shot down in Northern Laos, protected the U.S. radar system at Phou
3 Phathi, and stopped the communist troops from crossing the Ho Chi Minh Trail; and

4 Whereas, an estimated 35,000 Hmong soldiers and tens of thousands of
5 civilians died in Laos during the Vietnam War; and

6 Whereas, General Vang Pao immigrated to the United States after the
7 Communist Pathet Lao seized control of Laos in 1975; and

8 Whereas, thousands of Hmong refugees followed in General Vang Pao’s
9 footsteps and bravely escaped persecution and repression in Laos and resettled in
10 the United States; and

11 Whereas, General Vang Pao was admired for his work in establishing a
12 nonprofit organization called Lao Family Community to help Hmong and Lao
13 refugee families; and

14 Whereas, General Vang Pao was respected for his efforts in forming the Lao
15 Veterans of America, Inc., for the thousands of former ethnic Laotian and Hmong
16 veterans and their families living in the United States; and

17 Whereas, Mrs. General Vang Pao completed her education at Sisawangvong
18 Medical University in Vientiane, Laos; and

19 Whereas, Mrs. General Vang Pao worked for years as a surgical nurse and
20 physician’s assistant to help the less fortunate; and

21 Whereas, Mrs. General Vang Pao devoted herself to carrying on her husband’s
22 legacy and helping the Hmong community; and

23 Whereas, General Vang Pao and Mrs. General Vang Pao are survived by their
24 sons, daughters, and grandchildren; and

