

## House Concurrent Resolution No. 5016

By Representative Fawcett

2-16

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1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the United States Congress to  
2 extend equal benefits for the treatment of Agent Orange exposure to  
3 Vietnam veterans who served outside of Vietnam.

4 *WHEREAS, Thousands of veterans of the Vietnam War suffer from the*  
5 *effects of exposure to Agent Orange, a powerful and toxic defoliant used*  
6 *to clear areas of dense vegetation used as enemy hideouts; and*

7 *WHEREAS, Agent Orange exposure causes a variety of devastating*  
8 *health effects, such as increased rates of cancer, immune system*  
9 *disorders and genetic maladies which lead to birth defects in the children*  
10 *of those exposed; and*

11 *WHEREAS, Although the use of Agent Orange is most commonly*  
12 *associated with the country of Vietnam, it was also used extensively in*  
13 *surrounding areas such as Thailand; and*

14 *WHEREAS, Many veterans affected by exposure to Agent Orange*  
15 *proudly and bravely served their country in these surrounding areas*  
16 *without ever actually setting foot in Vietnam itself; and*

17 *WHEREAS, These veterans are struggling to obtain the same medical*  
18 *benefits to deal with their exposure as those who served on the ground in*  
19 *Vietnam: Now, therefore,*

20 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas,*  
21 *the Senate concurring therein: That the Congress of the United States is*  
22 *urged to work with the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that*  
23 *Vietnam veterans who served in areas surrounding Vietnam itself are able*  
24 *to receive the same medical benefits for the treatment of Agent Orange*  
25 *exposure as those who served within the country's borders; and*

26 *Be it further resolved: That the Chief Clerk of the House of*  
27 *Representatives shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to*  
28 *Representative Fawcett.*