

**RESOLUTION 2-H.F.No. 195**

*A resolution memorializing the Congress of the United States to continue funding of the POW/MIA special investigation that is being conducted by the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee.*

WHEREAS, on April 12, 1973, the United States Department of Defense publicly stated that there was "no evidence" of live American POWs in Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, the public statement was given nine days after Pathet Lao leaders declared on April 3, 1973, that Laotian communist forces did, in fact, have live American prisoners of war in their control; and

WHEREAS, no POWs held by the Laotian government and military forces were ever released; and

WHEREAS, there have been more than 11,700 live sighting reports received by the Department of Defense since 1973 and, after detailed analysis, the Department of Defense admits there are a number of "unresolved" and "discrepancy" cases; and

WHEREAS, in October 1990, the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee released an "Interim Report on the Southeast Asian POW/MIA Issue" that concluded that United States military and civilian personnel were held against their will in Southeast Asia, despite earlier public statements by the Department of Defense that there was "no evidence" of live POWs, and that information available to the United States government does not rule out the probability that United States citizens are still held in Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, the Senate Interim Report states that congressional inquiries into the POW/MIA issue have been hampered by information that was concealed from committee members, or were "misinterpreted or manipulated" in government files; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it requests the Congress of the United States to continue funding of this investigation that is vital to resolving the POW/MIA issue in Southeast Asia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota is directed to prepare certified copies of this memorial and transmit them to the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Chief Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Presented to the governor March 19, 1991

Signed by the governor March 21, 1991, 11:13 a.m.