

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION**

S.R. No. 44

(SENATE AUTHORS: XIONG)

DATE
05/13/2025

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Introduction
Referred to Rules and Administration

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A Senate resolution

1.2 marking the 50th anniversary of the Hmong exodus from Laos following the end of

1.3 the Secret War.

1.4 **WHEREAS**, May 14, 2025, marks the 50th anniversary of the Hmong exodus out of Laos

1.5 to the United States after the end of the Secret War in Laos on May 14, 1975; and

1.6 **WHEREAS**, from 1961 to 1975, Hmong and Lao soldiers were organized into armed units

1.7 known as Special Guerilla Units (SGU) and fought alongside the United States against the

1.8 overwhelming forces of tyranny and oppression; and

1.9 **WHEREAS**, the Hmong founded and created the air base Long Cheng, or Lima Site 20A,

1.10 in Laos to run covert aerial and reconnaissance operations in Military Region II of Laos; and

1.11 **WHEREAS**, the Hmong were tasked with combating communist expansion, disrupting

1.12 enemy supply lines, rescuing downed American pilots in enemy territory, defending key military

1.13 positions and territory in northern Laos, and supporting the United States in advancing freedom

1.14 and democracy in Southeast Asia; and

1.15 **WHEREAS**, in May 1975, Laos fell under communist control and Hmong and Lao SGU

1.16 and their families were hunted, imprisoned, tortured, or executed, forcing tens of thousands of SGU

1.17 soldiers to flee Laos with their loved ones, seeking refuge across the Mekong River; and

1.18 **WHEREAS**, tens of thousands of Hmong and Lao refugees chose to follow their American

1.19 friends and allies and resettle in the United States. The first of these families arrived in Minnesota

1.20 in November 1975; and

1.21 **WHEREAS**, this anniversary honors the service of the over 40,000 SGU members and

1.22 commemorates the estimated 35,000 SGU soldiers who gave their lives fighting alongside the

1.23 United States in this cause; and

2.1 **WHEREAS**, upon the withdrawal of the United States from Southeast Asia and the denial
 2.2 of support to the Hmong, the Hmong military command flew out of Long Cheng on May 14, 1975,
 2.3 marking the last day of joint Hmong-United States resistance to communism; and

2.4 **WHEREAS**, on this 50th anniversary, we pay tribute to the lives that were lost and honor
 2.5 the service and sacrifices of the SGU forces and their families, who have contributed to the freedoms
 2.6 and liberties we enjoy in Minnesota and across the United States; and

2.7 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that it
 2.8 marks the 50th anniversary of the Hmong Minnesotans journey from a war-torn nation to the United
 2.9 States, the land of the free and the home of the brave.

2.10 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Secretary of the Senate is directed to prepare an
 2.11 enrolled copy of this resolution, to be authenticated by the Secretary's signature and that of the
 2.12 Chair of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, and transmit it to Special Guerilla Unit
 2.13 (SGU) Veterans and Families of USA.

Tom Bottern
 Secretary of the Senate

Erin P. Murphy
 Chair, Senate Committee on
 Rules and Administration

Tou Xiong
 State Senator, District 44

Susan Pha
 State Senator, District 38

Foung Hawj
 State Senator, District 67