

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 256

Reps. Xiong and Rogers offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare May 14, 2024, as Hmong Special  
2 Guerrilla Units Remembrance Day in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, The first Hmong families arrived in the United States  
4 as refugees of war in 1976, with thousands settling in the state of  
5 Michigan; and

6 Whereas, During the Vietnam War, the Central Intelligence  
7 Agency (CIA) and United States Armed Forces recruited, organized,  
8 trained, and assisted Hmong forces to combat the North Vietnamese  
9 Army and communist Pathet Lao forces; and

10 Whereas, Hmong guerrilla soldiers courageously fought  
11 alongside Americans during the "Secret War" in Laos; and

12 Whereas, Thousands of Hmong men, women and children died in

1 Laos. Their deaths were unaccounted for, while their commitment to  
2 rescuing downed American pilots and saving U.S. troops never  
3 wavered; and

4       Whereas, When the U.S withdrew from Laos, the Hmong faced  
5 harsh retribution from the Communist government for their  
6 involvement in the American war effort and many were ultimately  
7 forced to flee their native land; and

8       Whereas, On May 14th, 1975, the American Central Intelligence  
9 Agency withdrew from Laos, and the Hmong veterans and their  
10 families began their journey to new beginnings; and

11       Whereas, Michigan is home to a significant number of Hmong  
12 refugees, after providing political asylum and citizenship because  
13 of their unique contribution to American interests; and

14       Whereas, The House of Representatives, recognizes that the  
15 state of Michigan is home to a significant number of Hmong  
16 Americans and the importance of educating the general public about  
17 the historic contributions of our Hmong American residents; and

18       Whereas, The diversity of the Hmong people adds much to the  
19 cultural fabric of our city, state, and country, as they have  
20 shared their traditions, food, and practices of faith; and

21       Whereas, Today, the House of Representatives joins in  
22 reflecting on the tremendous heroism and sacrifice of our Hmong  
23 American community; and

24       Whereas, We honor their commitment to leadership,  
25 establishment of businesses, and contribution to the economic  
26 growth of our state; now, therefore, be it

27       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
28 this legislative body declare May 14, 2024, as Hmong Special  
29 Guerrilla Units Remembrance Day in the state of Michigan.