



In Service to America

Vietnam Veterans of America

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A Not-For-Profit Veterans Service Organization Chartered by the United States Congress

March 28, 2006

The Honorable Mike Rogers
United States House of Representatives
133 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2208

The Honorable Silvestre Reyes
United States House of Representatives
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-4316

Dear Congressmen Rogers and Reyes,

Vietnam Veterans of America applauds your initiative and endorses wholeheartedly your bill, the Respect for America's Fallen Heroes Act. While we believe in free speech, we abhor the actions of those who would attempt to move their own agenda by their rants at the funerals of Americans who have made the supreme sacrifice for our nation.

We understand that your bill would ban demonstrations for an hour before and an hour after funerals taking place at our national cemeteries (including Arlington National Cemetery), and would impose a 500-foot restriction on demonstrations at national cemeteries, and would allow a civil infraction for violations. Your bill also would express the "sense of Congress" that all states should enact similar legislation for state and private cemeteries, and for funeral homes.

Your bill affirms that that there are certain places, special places, that should be off-limits to politicking and demonstrating. Which is as it should be.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Rowan".

John Rowan
National President