



UNITED STATES SENATOR
WASHINGTON, D.C.

September 11, 2011

Dear Friends,

I extend my warmest greetings and heartfelt thanks to all those who are gathered for the Vietnamese American Armed Forces Association's Annual Fundraiser Banquet.

It has always been my firm belief that a military career is one of the most honorable professions; we are all indebted to our Vietnamese American veterans for their service. I am humbled by their commitment to serving our country in every way. I am also thankful to the military families and friends who sacrifice a lot to support their activities. This is a good time to remember the Vietnamese American combat veterans as well as the crew of the USS Kirk which led the rescue of over 30,000 Vietnamese refugees and numerous South Vietnamese military vessels at sea after the fall of Saigon.

On this day, it is most appropriate to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of September 11th. We should continue to honor the memories, the service and the sacrifice of the victims, survivors, first responders and their families.

Many of you will recall that I was sworn-in as Virginia's Governor just four months after the 9/11 attacks. We moved quickly to create a new Cabinet-level position responsible for homeland security and we worked closely with our leading public and private sector partners to make sure Virginia was better prepared to guard against, and respond more effectively, to any future acts of terrorism.

As a member of the United States Senate, I am proud to have joined a bipartisan group of colleagues in introducing a resolution that calls for a Moment of Remembrance today. I felt it proper to establish a way for Virginians and Americans to come together as a nation to pause and reflect. The resolution recognizes the victims of the attacks, including survivors and our brave first responders, and expresses the nation's deep condolences for the lives lost at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

On this important occasion, I am very pleased to join with your families, friends and community in sending best wishes for a successful fundraiser banquet.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark R. Warner".

MARK R. WARNER
United States Senator