

VIETNAM VETERANS' DAY

Statement

HON COLIN TINCKNELL (South West) [5.21 pm]: I see that a few people want to make members' statements, so I will be brief. On Tuesday, I did not have the opportunity to make a contribution to acknowledge Vietnam Veterans' Day and I wanted to remind members what an important day that is. Members of this house have served in the armed services and it would be an important day to them. I remember being only 19 years old—just like the Redgum song—when the Australian government called off the Vietnam War. On Tuesday, I had a motion regarding homelessness before the house and many veterans are homeless and struggling even today, even though the Vietnam War ended many years ago. They are still on the street and struggling, as are present-day vets. During that war, 60 000 Australians served in Vietnam, of which 521 died and 3 000 were wounded. I know that all members in here would like to honour those people. I finish with: lest we forget.