Bill Introduced Honor Vietnamese Supporters and Fund UXO Removal Efforts

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Washington, D.C. The Legacies of War Recognition and UXO Removal Act was introduced by Senators Tammy Baldwin (Wisconsin) and Jerry Moran (Kansas) to recognize contributions of Southeast Asian communities to the United States military during the Vietnam War.

The Bill acknowledges specific individuals and Vietnamese American communities who supported the U.S. during the war by evacuating refugees, rescuing U.S. pilots shot down in enemy-controlled territory, and /or gathered key intelligence for the U.S. military.

In a press release, Senator Baldwin said, "Americans are indebted to the Hmong-Americans and other Diasporas from Southeast Asia for their service and sacrifice to support our troops in the war in Vietnam. I am proud to introduce this bipartisan legislation to recognize and honor the efforts of these brave refugees and immigrants and work to do right by those communities who are still facing the consequences of the war."

The legislation also authorizes funding for the removal of landmines and other UXO left behind in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos and would provide financial assistance to programs for those injured by landmines and other legacies of war. According to Baldwin's press release, there are tens of millions of UXO remaining in the three countries. Over 50,000 civilians in Laos, 38,000 civilians in Vietnam, and 65,000 civilians in Cambodia have been injured or killed by these remnants of the war.

Download the full text of the legislation from <u>UXOInfo.com</u>.