Throughout past wars, the selfless individuals who make up the U.S. Military have boldly answered the call. They sacrificed much in defense of liberty at home and abroad. They endured hardships too great to count.

Our soldiers witnessed the carnage of World War II, from Guadalcanal to Normandy. In Vietnam, the jungle was an enemy in and of itself, with dangerous creatures and unrelenting rain. In addition to the daily toll of conflict, some even faced the unimaginable as prisoners of war. The ultimate sacrifice is paid by the soldiers who have yet to make it home.

Countless friends and families are still waiting for answers regarding the recovery of their loved ones as more than 82,000 American soldiers remain missing from past conflicts. That is why Texas sets aside a day in September to recognize their sacrifice and the importance of providing the fullest possible accounting for all who are missing.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to support the friends and family of our veterans who are prisoners of war and missing in action. Let us join them in looking forward to the day that this mission is complete.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim September 20, 2019, to be

POW/MIA Recognition Day

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 1st day of August, 2019.

Governor of Texas