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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 138

Offered January 21, 2000

Commending the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots Program.

Patrons—Purkey, Drake, Joannou, McDonnell, Melvin, Robinson, Suit, Tata, Wagner, Wardrup and Williams; Senators: Forbes, Lucas, Miller, Y.B., Quayle, Rerras, Schrock and Stolle

WHEREAS, since 1947, the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots Program has proven to be one of the most popular and successful such programs in the nation; and

WHEREAS, since 1948, Hampton Roads Marine Corps Reserve units have participated in the Toys for Tots Program with enthusiasm and great success; and

WHEREAS, nationwide, an average of eight million toys are distributed annually during the holiday season to four million children by the Marine Corps Reserves; and

WHEREAS, in Hampton Roads, approximately 40,000 high-quality toys have been collected, along with 15,000-20,000 "stocking stuffers" for distribution to 20,000 children; and

WHEREAS, in addition, \$35,000 in donations were collected to purchase nearly 4,000 toys for older children: and

WHEREAS, among the units participating in the Toys for Tots Program are the Marine Aircraft Group 42, Detachment B, Naval Station, Norfolk; the Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 774, Naval Station, Norfolk; and the Marine Aircraft Control Squadron 24, Dam Neck; and

WHEREAS, also participating are Company A, 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion, Little Creek; the Naval Regional Medical Center, Portsmouth; and Marine Corps League Detachments in Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, and Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, due to the exceedingly generous efforts of the men and women of these Hampton Roads military units, thousands of Hampton Roads children had a far more joyous holiday season than would otherwise have been the case; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots Program; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to the Marine Corps units that participate in the Toys for Tots Program as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for their fine work on behalf of the children of Hampton Roads.