

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA -- 2000 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 140

Commending Cornelius T. O'Neill.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 28, 2000
Agreed to by the Senate, February 3, 2000

WHEREAS, Cornelius T. "Connie" O'Neill has announced his intention to retire as Adjutant of the Virginia Department of the American Legion in December 2000; and

WHEREAS, a native of Brooklyn, New York, and a graduate of St. John's University, Connie O'Neill served in the United States Navy for 25 years, retiring in 1982 with the rank of captain; and

WHEREAS, during his years on active duty, Connie O'Neill served on seven ships and commanded two which saw extensive service along the coasts of North and South Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Connie O'Neill has been the Virginia Department Adjutant of the American Legion since 1987 and has coordinated the activities of the 52,000 Legionnaires and the 230 American Legion posts in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, as the spokesman for Virginia's Legionnaires, Connie O'Neill played an active role in the passage of tax relief for Virginia's service men and women serving on active duty, was a leader in the effort to open a new cemetery, and has been an active proponent of a second veterans' care center; and

WHEREAS, Connie O'Neill was the driving force in the Legion's program to build better citizenship in Virginia's youth throughout the Commonwealth by means of such initiatives as the Junior Law Cadet Program with the Virginia State Police, the Junior Shooting Sports Program, and the Junior ROTC Drill Competition Program; and

WHEREAS, Connie O'Neill has been active on the national level, winning praise for his effective presentation of veterans' issues before Congress, distinguishing himself on the American Legion's National Legislative Council, and serving as the Legion's liaison to the Honorable Thomas J. Bliley, Jr., Congressman; and

WHEREAS, during a career that will encompass 13 years by the time of his retirement, Connie O'Neill has represented the veterans of Virginia with great skill, uncommon dedication, and unremitting commitment to their welfare; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Cornelius T. O'Neill for his many years of outstanding service to Virginia's veterans; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Cornelius T. O'Neill as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for his dedication to the well-being of Virginia's veterans.

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