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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 412

Offered January 12, 2001

*Commending Erin Nicole Claunch and the Virginia Military Institute Class of 2001.*

Patrons—Mims and Norment; Delegates: Black and May

WHEREAS, during the 2000-2001 academic year, Erin Nicole Claunch is serving as one of two battalion commanders at Virginia Military Institute; and

WHEREAS, a 1997 graduate of Loudoun Valley High School and a resident of Round Hill, Erin Claunch is a member of the Class of 2001, the first coeducational class at VMI; and

WHEREAS, a physics major who ranks near the top of her class of 298 cadets, Erin Claunch is eminently qualified for her role as battalion commander, the second-highest military post in the student body at VMI; and

WHEREAS, a member of the VMI cross-country team, Erin Claunch qualified for her important post through her exceptional academic performance, leadership abilities, athletic achievements, and excellent physical-fitness scores; and

WHEREAS, that Erin Claunch was recognized for her excellent performance and chosen for a leadership position only three years after VMI began admitting female students speaks well for the Institute's adjustment to its momentous and historic change; and

WHEREAS, that Erin Claunch's classmates and fellow leaders view her selection as battalion commander as well-earned but otherwise unremarkable is further evidence of the resolve of the VMI community to respond to that change in a manner that brings honor to the Institute and the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Erin Claunch's extraordinary record of achievement at VMI is a personal triumph for her and also is a tribute to the Class of 2001 and the leadership of VMI in successfully making the transition to coeducation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Erin Nicole Claunch for her pioneering and successful career at Virginia Military Institute and commend the Class of 2001 for being a positive example for all who will follow in its path; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to Erin Nicole Claunch and the Class of 2001 as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for their accomplishments and best wishes for continued success.

INTRODUCED

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