

047387736

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 96**

Senate Amendments in [ ] — February 3, 2004

*Designating the month of April, in 2004 and in each succeeding year, as Confederate History and Heritage Month in Virginia.*

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Senator Hawkins

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, it was during the invigorating month of April that the people of the Confederate States of America began and ended a four-year struggle for independence and sovereign rights; and

WHEREAS, the numerous battlefields, monuments, museums, and other historical sites to be found in Virginia allow our citizens, and indeed people the world over, to remember and pay tribute to the men and women of that unique time in the history of the Commonwealth and the nation; and

WHEREAS, Virginia has long recognized her Confederate history, the officers and enlisted men of the Army and the Navy and those at home who made sacrifices on behalf of the cause for their families, homes, communities, Virginia, and country; and

WHEREAS, it is important to all Virginians to reflect upon our Commonwealth's past and to respect the honorable sacrifices of her Confederate leaders, soldiers, and citizens [ ~~to the cause of liberty and the cause of preserving the self-determination of the bond of States that voluntarily joined the Confederate States of America~~ ] ; and

WHEREAS, when overwhelmed by the insurmountable numbers and resources of their determined opponents, the surviving, imprisoned, and injured Confederate soldiers gave their word and allegiance to the United States of America and returned to their homes and families to rebuild their communities in peace; and

WHEREAS, the significance of this era in the history of the Commonwealth and the nation continues to be a source of pride, honor, and respect for millions of Americans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly designate the month of April, in 2004 and in each succeeding year, as Confederate History and Heritage Month in Virginia and call this observance to the attention of all of our citizens; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate [ transmit a copy of this resolution to the Commander of the Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, requesting that he further disseminate copies of this resolution to the members of the Division so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly in this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the Senate ] post the designation of this month on the General Assembly's website.

ENGROSSED

S196E