

2005 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 552

Offered January 12, 2005

Prefiled November 23, 2004

Supporting the rights of Macedonians living throughout the Balkans.

Patron—Frederick (By Request)

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, in 1991, 95 percent of the voters of Macedonia voted for independence from Yugoslavia; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, the Republic of Macedonia became a member of the United Nations; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, the United States recognized the Republic of Macedonia as a sovereign state; and

WHEREAS, in November 2004, the United States formally recognized the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as "Macedonia," its constitutional name; and

WHEREAS, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld recently visited Macedonia for a medal award ceremony, and Macedonia was honored by President Bush and the State Department for its support of the war in Iraq; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby support the rights of Macedonians living throughout the Balkans to speak their language, to practice their customs, and to be granted all of the civil and human rights required by international law; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the Macedonian Patriotic Organization in order that the members of the organization may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

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