

2006 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 293

Offered February 9, 2006

Celebrating the life of Sergeant Kenith Casica.

Patron—Suit

WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant Kenith Casica, aged 32, of Virginia Beach was killed in the line of duty in Iraq on December 10, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Kenith Casica was born in the Philippines and, from the age of two, grew up in Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, as a teenager, Kenith Casica held part-time jobs delivering *The Virginian-Pilot* and working at the McDonalds on Bonney Road; and he graduated from Green Run High School in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Casica enlisted in the Army in 1996 and was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Casica was injured by shrapnel from a rocket-propelled grenade during his first deployment to Iraq; and

WHEREAS, serving his second tour of duty in Iraq with the 101st Airborne, Sergeant Casica's platoon was patrolling in a neighborhood near Baghdad when he and a fellow soldier were killed by small-arms fire; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Casica was a dedicated soldier, who believed in his mission; the day before his death, he told an Army journalist that he wanted the Iraqi citizens "to realize that we are here to help them"; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Casica always wanted to be granted his American citizenship, which he will receive posthumously; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Casica loved to joke around and have fun, enjoyed the ocean and fishing, and was ardently devoted to his wife and three children, his mother, father, and step-father, all of Hampton Roads, as well as his beloved sister and brother; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Casica's death is a reminder of the perils faced daily by the thousands of young Americans who serve in our armed forces overseas and whose devotion to duty places them in harm's way; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of a courageous and patriotic Virginian, Sergeant Kenith Casica; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Sergeant Kenith Casica as an expression of the high regard in which his memory is held by the members of the General Assembly and the citizens of Virginia.

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