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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 350

Offered February 20, 2006

Commending Ronald Lee Ermev.

Patrons—Janis, Abbitt, Albo, Alexander, Amundson, Armstrong, Athey, BaCote, Barlow, Bell, Bowling, Brink, Bulova, Byron, Callahan, Caputo, Carrico, Cline, Cole, Cosgrove, Cox, Crockett-Stark, Dance, Dudley, Ebbin, Eisenberg, Englin, Fralin, Frederick, Gear, Gilbert, Griffith, Hall, Hamilton, Hargrove, Hogan, Howell, A.T., Howell, W.J., Hugo, Hull, Hurt, Iaquinto, Ingram, Joannou, Johnson, Jones, D.C., Jones, S.C., Kilgore, Landes, Lewis, Lingamfelter, Lohr, Marsden, Marshall, D.W., Marshall, R.G., May, McClellan, McEachin, McQuigg, Melvin, Miller, Moran, Morgan, Nixon, Nutter, O'Bannon, Oder, Orrock, Parrish, Peace, Phillips, Plum, Poisson, Purkey, Putney, Rapp, Reid, Rust, Saxman, Scott, E.T., Scott, J.M., Shannon, Sherwood, Shuler, Sickles, Spruill, Suit, Tata, Toscano, Tyler, Valentine, Waddell, Ward, Wardrup, Ware, O., Ware, R.L., Watts, Welch, Wittman and Wright

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Ronald Lee Ermev, USMC (retired), a native of Emporia, Kansas, served our nation honorably as a United States Marine, advancing to the rank of staff sergeant and earning numerous combat decorations, commendations, and medals; and

WHEREAS, R. Lee Ermev served with honor, obedience, and dedication during the Vietnam War, both in the Republic of Vietnam and on Okinawa; and

WHEREAS, as a United States Marine, R. Lee Ermev spent two years as a drill instructor at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, India Company 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, where he forged hundreds of young men into United States Marines; and

WHEREAS, R. Lee Ermev was medically retired from the Marine Corps for disabling injuries sustained in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement from active duty, R. Lee Ermev continued to personify the highest ideals of the United States Marine Corps by portraying fighting Marines in various roles in numerous feature films, and was a Golden Globe nominee for best supporting actor for his compelling portrayal of a United States Marine drill instructor; and

WHEREAS, R. Lee Ermev continues to raise public awareness of the selfless sacrifices and service of all of our nation's servicemen and women through *Mail Call*, his popular and acclaimed television show on *The History Channel*; and

WHEREAS, R. Lee Ermev continues to support our nation's troops through his entertaining, motivational, and morale-building visits with servicemen and women as they are forwardly deployed to combat zones or treated for their wounds at Veterans Administration Hospitals and Department of Defense medical facilities around the world; and

WHEREAS, for his extraordinary lifelong contributions to recruiting, retention, and public affairs, R. Lee Ermev was awarded the honorary rank of Marine Gunnery Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, "Gunny" Ermev continues his efforts to recruit the brightest and the best young Virginians to serve their country by working in partnership with the Virginia Automobile Dealers Association and the Marine Corps Recruiting Command and making celebrity appearances such as at the 2004 and 2006 Richmond Auto Show; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Ronald Lee Ermev for his selfless service to the Commonwealth, the nation, and to our servicemen and women; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Ronald Lee Ermev as an expression of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the General Assembly.

INTRODUCED

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