

2006 SESSION

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066597366

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 84

Offered January 11, 2006

Prefiled January 10, 2006

Celebrating the life of Sergeant Bradley J. Harper.

Patron—Jones, S.C.

WHEREAS, United States Marine Sergeant Bradley J. Harper, a native of Dresden, Ohio, was killed in action in Iraq on August 3, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Harper graduated from Tri-Valley High School in Dresden, Ohio, enlisted in the Marine Reserves in 1998, studied criminal justice at Ohio University, and moved to Virginia Beach to join the Virginia Beach Police Department in 2004; and

WHEREAS, a little over a year after becoming a police officer, Sergeant Harper's Marine Reserves unit was ordered to Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Harper was assigned to the 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion, 4th Marine Division, Marine Forces Reserve based in Norfolk and was attached to Regimental Combat Team 2, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force when deployed to Iraq; and

WHEREAS, on August 3, 2005, Sergeant Harper was killed in action south of Haditha, Iraq, along with 13 other Marines and an Iraqi interpreter when their amphibious assault vehicle struck a roadside improvised explosive device; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Harper received a Purple Heart in recognition for his ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty and leaves behind his beloved wife who resides in Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Harper'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 Bradley J. Harper; 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 Bradley J. Harper 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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