

2009 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 923

Offered February 17, 2009

Commending the Virginia National Guard's 3rd Battalion, 116th Brigade Combat Team.

Patron—Sherwood

WHEREAS, the Virginia National Guard's Winchester-based 3rd Battalion, 116th Brigade Combat Team received the Walter T. Kerwin, Jr. Readiness Award on October 7, 2008, from General George W. Casey, Jr., Chief of Staff of the United States Army, for being the Army's most outstanding National Guard unit; and

WHEREAS, the Walter T. Kerwin, Jr. Readiness Award was established jointly by the National Guard Association of the United States, the Association of the United States Army, and the Reserve Officers Association of the United States, in honor of General Walter T. Kerwin, Jr., former Vice Chief of Staff of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, the 3rd Battalion, 116th Brigade Combat Team had an annual readiness rating of "excellent" or "outstanding" with at least two organic or attached units that met Superior Unit Award criteria; and

WHEREAS, the battalion had an effective maintenance program for all units and achieved readiness objectives as outlined by United States Forces Command; and

WHEREAS, the battalion's high level of readiness led to a very successful mobilization and deployment to Iraq in the fall of 2007; and

WHEREAS, these citizen soldiers have been chosen as the nation's best unit with the highest level of readiness in the country; and

WHEREAS, considering the stringent competition, every member of the 3rd Battalion, 116th Brigade Combat Team unit can take pride in his contributions and ability to respond in times of need; and

WHEREAS, the unit's accomplishments would not have been possible without the tremendous support of families and employers during mobilization and deployment; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant General H. Steven Blum, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, made the final selection of the 3rd Battalion, 116th Brigade Combat Team after reviewing all the submissions and determining that the unit clearly met and exceeded all the Army standards; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the members of the 3rd Battalion, 116th Brigade Combat Team for their devotion to duty, high level of readiness, and many outstanding and valuable contributions to the defense of the United States and the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the commander of the 3rd Battalion, 116th Brigade Combat Team, on behalf of the patriotic soldiers under his command, as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for their dedication to the citizens of the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world.

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