

2009 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 498

Offered February 23, 2009

Commending the September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance.

Patron—Colgan

WHEREAS, September 11, 2001, is a day Americans will forever remember, because the terrorist attacks that day resulted in nearly 3,000 lives being lost at New York City's World Trade Center, Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and the Pentagon in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, several days after the tragic event, the Commonwealth of Virginia was host to the Mid-Atlantic Conference on Greenways, Blueways, and Green Infrastructure that was held just blocks away from the Pentagon; and

WHEREAS, at the conference's concluding forum, the attendees were presented with a vision of a multi-use trail to be called the September 11th National Memorial Trail established as a perpetual remembrance of the heroes America lost that fateful day; and

WHEREAS, the September 11th National Memorial Trail would begin at the Pentagon in Virginia, continue to New York City and then to Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and then back to the Pentagon; and

WHEREAS, one leg of the proposed trail would extend from Virginia along the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, following the Potomac River to Cumberland, Maryland, and then continue to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, along the Great Allegheny Passage, which passes near Shanksville, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the second leg of the proposed trail would extend from the Pentagon to the World Trade Center site in New York City as part of the East Coast Greenway; and

WHEREAS, the third and final leg of the proposed trail would connect the Shanksville site to the World Trade Center site, and thus the September 11th National Memorial Trail would provide a connecting trail between all of the September 11 sites never to be broken; and

WHEREAS, the September 11th National Memorial Trail would be a multi-use trail to portray the story of how America responded to the crisis on that fateful day; and

WHEREAS, the September 11th National Memorial Trail would be a recreational trail to promote healthy bodies and minds, and provide economic benefit to the local communities along the trail corridor through tourism; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance and wish it every success in the development of the trail as America approaches the 10th anniversary of the September 11 tragedy; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for the organization's many efforts on behalf of the citizens of the Commonwealth.

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