HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 137

Designating the Honor and Remember Flag as the Commonwealth's emblem of the service and sacrifice by the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who have given their lives in the line of duty.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 21, 2010 Agreed to by the Senate, March 2, 2010

WHEREAS, while war deaths have been a part of our heritage since the birth of this nation, the United States has not instituted an official symbol commemorating fallen servicepersons; and

WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 1034 of the 111th Congress designates the Honor and Remember Flag, created by Honor and Remember, Inc., to officially recognize and honor fallen members of the armed forces; and

WHEREAS, the Honor and Remember Flag red field represents the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives for freedom; and

WHEREAS, the Honor and Remember Flag blue star is a symbol of active service in military conflict that dates back to World War I; and

WHEREAS, the Honor and Remember Flag white border recognizes the purity of sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, the Honor and Remember Flag gold star signifies the ultimate sacrifice of a warrior in active service who is not returning home and reflects the value of the life given; and

WHEREAS, the Honor and Remember Flag folded flag element highlights this nation's final tribute to a fallen serviceperson and a family's sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, the Honor and Remember Flag flame symbolizes the eternal spirit of the departed; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia General Assembly calls for a unifying symbol recognizing this nation's solemn debt to the estimated 1.6 million fallen servicepersons throughout history and the families and communities who mourned their loss; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Honor and Remember Flag be designated as the Commonwealth's emblem of service and sacrifice by the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who have given their lives in the line of duty; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services, requesting that the Commissioner further disseminate copies of this resolution to their respective constituents so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.