HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 651

Commending Norman McIntosh.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 14, 2011 Agreed to by the Senate, January 20, 2011

WHEREAS, Norman McIntosh, the Virginia National Guard's longest serving aviator, retired on August 18, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Norman McIntosh began flying at the young age of 16; after graduating from Cradock High School in Portsmouth, he served as a United States Army helicopter pilot in Vietnam, where he flew 1,334 combat hours and received the Distinguished Flying Cross for his outstanding service; and

WHEREAS, Norman McIntosh joined the Virginia National Guard in 1971 as an aviator; over the years, he served as a "weekend warrior", attended Old Dominion University, married, had four children, and worked for the Norfolk Naval Shipyard; and

WHEREAS, admired and respected by his colleagues, Norman McIntosh's experience as an aviator helped the Virginia National Guard fulfill its duties at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, Norman McIntosh helped establish a medical evacuation detachment and deployed with it during the Persian Gulf War in 1990 - 1991; and

WHEREAS, Norman McIntosh participated in the Virginia National Guard's rescue and relief efforts after extensive flooding in western Virginia in 1976, 1985, and 1995 and Hurricanes Dennis and Floyd in 1999; and

WHEREAS, respected for his expertise, Norman McIntosh also served as an instructor pilot to other Virginia National Guard pilots, sharing his experiences and knowledge with future generations of aviators; and

WHEREAS, Norman McIntosh concluded his Virginia National Guard service with a flight in a Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter and was surrounded by reporters, his fellow Guardsmen, and well-wishers when he returned; and

WHEREAS, for his exemplary service to the Virginia National Guard, Norman McIntosh received the Virginia National Guard Legion of Merit Medal; and

WHEREAS, after more than 40 years of service, Norman McIntosh hopes to continue flying with the Virginia Defense Force and after retiring from his Norfolk Naval Shipyard position in 2011, spend more time with his family and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Norman McIntosh for his over 40 years of meritorious service to the Virginia National Guard on the occasion of his retirement; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Norman McIntosh as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for his service and best wishes in his future endeavors.