

2012 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 493

Offered March 2, 2012

Commending William R. Snead.

Patron—Edmunds

WHEREAS, William R. Snead of Halifax County was honored for his meritorious service to France during World War II as a Chevalier in the National Order of the Legion of Honor by the French government; and

WHEREAS, as a young man, William Snead traveled from the rural roads of Halifax County to the battlefields of Europe as the United States entered World War II; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 1944, William Snead became part of one of most decisive battles of the war when he stormed the beach at Normandy; he and his fellow soldiers' gallant efforts helped turn the war in the Allies' favor; and

WHEREAS, after his distinguished military service, William Snead returned to Halifax County, opening a house-painting business and raising his family while contributing to the community; and

WHEREAS, over the years, William Snead shared his wartime experiences and love for his country with schoolchildren and area residents and took part in efforts to recognize veterans, including leading the 2010 South Boston Veterans Day parade; and

WHEREAS, in February 2012, William Snead traveled to the French embassy in Washington, D.C., with his four children, Bill, Jimmie, Carolyn, and Joanne, to receive the prestigious Legion of Honor, the highest decoration in France, given for "services rendered to France by persons of exceptional merit"; and

WHEREAS, William Snead was later honored in Halifax County when he received an American flag flown over the nation's Capitol from Congressman Robert Hurt; and

WHEREAS, a courageous and patriotic Virginian, William Snead honorably served this nation and the country of France during World War II; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend William R. Snead on being honored as a Chevalier in the National Order of the Legion of Honor by the French government; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to William R. Snead as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for his distinguished military service.

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