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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 746

Offered January 16, 2013

*Commending Korean American veterans of the Vietnam War.*

Patrons—Keam and Kory

WHEREAS, Korean veterans of the Vietnam War served honorably throughout the conflict, fighting courageously alongside American troops and often making the ultimate sacrifice, with many going on to become American citizens; and

WHEREAS, the United States holds as its highest ideals freedom, democracy, and self-determination; during the Vietnam War, more than three million American troops fought bravely to preserve and defend these ideals; and

WHEREAS, 58,193 American soldiers were killed, more than 300,000 were wounded, and 2,000 American troops are missing in action; and

WHEREAS, soldiers from the Republic of Korea were sent to the Vietnam War to support American troops and the cause of freedom at the request of the United States; and

WHEREAS, 325,517 Korean soldiers served in Vietnam from 1964 until the last soldier left Saigon on March 23, 1973, making Korean soldiers the second largest contingent of troops sent by allies of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Korean troops fought bravely throughout the theater and were known for their dedication, tenacity, and effectiveness on the battlefield; and

WHEREAS, 5,099 Korean soldiers were killed and 10,962 Korean soldiers were injured, many in defense of their American friends and allies; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 20 percent of Korean veterans of the Vietnam War suffer from significant injuries, including post-traumatic stress disorder, total disability, and the effects of the toxic defoliant Agent Orange; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that thousands of Korean veterans of the Vietnam War currently live in the United States and that most of them have become citizens; and

WHEREAS, approximately eight percent of Korean American veterans of the Vietnam War live in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Korean American veterans of the Vietnam War honorably upheld the highest ideals of the United States through their dedicated service and considerable sacrifices; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Korean American veterans of the Vietnam War for their service to 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 Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Washington, D.C., the General Association of Meritorious Korean Vietnam War Veterans of the U.S.A., and to the Korean American Association of Virginia as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the sacrifices made by Korean American veterans of the Vietnam War in defense of freedom and democracy.

INTRODUCED

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