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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 320

Offered February 14, 2014

*Commending the Lynchburg-based 1st Battalion, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.*

Patrons—Garrett, Austin, Bell, Robert B., Byron, Campbell, Chafin, Cox, DeSteph, Fariss, Gilbert, Knight, Lingamfelter, Rust and Stolle; Senator: Newman

WHEREAS, on October 21, 2013, the soldiers of the Lynchburg-based 1st Battalion, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team were presented the Walter T. Kerwin, Jr., Readiness Award and recognized as the most combat-ready Army National Guard battalion in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the award is presented annually by the Association of the United States Army, the National Guard Association of the United States, and the Reserve Officers Association to the most outstanding Army National Guard and Army Reserve units in the country; and

WHEREAS, the Lynchburg-based 1st Battalion, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team successfully completed the eligibility criteria for the Walter T. Kerwin, Jr., Readiness Award, which includes an evaluation of assigned personnel strength, the percentage of personnel qualified in their duty position, the number of personnel attending monthly drill weekends and annual training, individual weapons qualification and physical fitness test scores, the effectiveness of a maintenance program for all units, and achievement of the readiness objectives outlined by the United States Forces Command; and

WHEREAS, for the 2012 training year, the Lynchburg-based 1st Battalion, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team scored above 100 percent in personnel strength, 95 percent in military occupation specialty, 99 percent in individual weapons qualification, and 100 percent in assigned crew-served weapons qualification, and several of the battalion's companies were recognized for training excellence; and

WHEREAS, the exceptional achievements of the Lynchburg-based 1st Battalion, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team confirm that the battalion ranks among the best in the country and inspires confidence in the Virginia National Guard's well-earned reputation for rapid response in times of domestic emergencies, disasters, and federal military operations around the world; and

WHEREAS, the Lynchburg-based 1st Battalion, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team has worked diligently, has earned the distinction of receiving the Walter T. Kerwin, Jr., Readiness Award, and epitomizes the National Guard's motto, "Always Ready, Always There"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Lynchburg-based 1st Battalion, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team on the occasion of receiving the prestigious Walter T. Kerwin, Jr., Readiness Award as the most combat-ready Army National Guard battalion in the nation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Lieutenant Colonel Allan Carter of the Lynchburg-based 1st Battalion, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations on being recognized as the most combat-ready Army National Guard battalion in the nation and appreciation for its outstanding service to the citizens of the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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