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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 941

Offered February 23, 2015

Commending the United States Navy Reserve.

Patrons—LaRock, Carr, Cole, DeSteph, Edmunds, Fariss, Futrell, Helsel, Hope, Knight, Kory, Landes, Leftwich, Minchew, Morris, Morrissey, Ramadan, Rust, Spruill, Taylor, Villanueva, Webert, Wilt and Yancey; Senators: Black, Carrico, Deeds, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Howell, Ruff, Vogel and Wagner

WHEREAS, since the birth of the nation, brave citizens have answered the call to serve at sea, from the proposition of a national naval militia by Thomas Jefferson in 1805, through the Civil War, which saw these units augmented in support of the United States Navy, to the Spanish-American War in 1898, in which 4,215 militia men supported the United States Navy; and

WHEREAS, in 1915, the United States Congress officially established the Federal Navy Reserve, and for the last 100 years, Navy Reserve sailors have participated in every major conflict, with more than 300,000 serving in World War I; more than two million serving in World War II, including former Presidents John F. Kennedy and George H. W. Bush; 130,000 serving in Korea; one out of every seven sailors serving in Vietnam; over 22,000 mobilizing for the first Gulf War; and 1,500 serving in Bosnia and Kosovo; and

WHEREAS, with more than 70,000 Navy Reserve sailors mobilized since September 2001 to support the Global War on Terrorism, the Navy Reserve of today is ready, trained, and aligned and integrated with active-duty military forces; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Navy Reserve is to provide strategic depth and deliver operational capabilities to the United States Navy and Marine Corps and other branches of the United States Armed Forces, from peace to war; and

WHEREAS, Navy Reserve sailors are patriots who balance the demands of family, community, civilian employment, and military readiness, hailing from local communities in every state and representing the interests of the nation; they are deeply connected to the American people and embody the spirit of the American ideal; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has thousands of serving Navy Reserve sailors in three Navy Operational Support Centers in Norfolk, Richmond, and Roanoke; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the United States Navy Reserve on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the United States Navy Reserve as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its contributions to safeguarding the nation.