

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19

Commending Laurie Enright.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 15, 2016
Agreed to by the Senate, January 21, 2016

WHEREAS, Laurie Enright of Warrenton completed a 10,000-mile motorcycle ride, The Long Ride Home, across the United States and Canada, raising thousands of dollars to benefit convalescent veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, a veteran of the United States Air Force and the Air National Guard, Laurie Enright completed 12 combat deployments in her 29-year military career; she is the cofounder of Molly's Irish Pub in Warrenton and has raised nearly \$500,000 for local and national charitable organizations supporting the community and her fellow veterans; and

WHEREAS, Laurie Enright and her daughter, Molly Michael, established The Long Ride Home to support and raise awareness for Boulder Crest Retreat for Military and Veteran Wellness, a nonprofit rural sanctuary in Bluemont that offers free accommodations, recreational activities, and therapy to veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, Laurie Enright began The Long Ride Home on May 25, 2015—Memorial Day—envisioning the ride as a metaphorical representation of the long and often painful journey returning veterans face while recovering from wounds and reintegrating into civilian life; and

WHEREAS, The Long Ride Home took Laurie Enright from Tempe, Arizona, to Alaska, back through Canada, and across the United States to finish at Molly's Irish Pub in Warrenton on September 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, during The Long Ride Home, Laurie Enright passed through 16 national parks, numerous military and public safety memorials, and several veterans' hospitals and support centers; and

WHEREAS, Laurie Enright succeeded in raising national awareness for veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, of whom more than 52,000 have been wounded in action and more than 30 percent suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Laurie Enright for her work to raise funds and awareness for convalescent veterans and their families through The Long Ride Home; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Laurie Enright as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her devoted service to the Commonwealth and the United States.

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