

2017 SESSION

INTRODUCED

17101205D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 299

Offered January 16, 2017

Commending the Green Beret Foundation.

Patron—Freitas

WHEREAS, the Green Beret Foundation, a nonprofit organization, provides immediate support and continuity of care to wounded members of the United States Army Special Forces and their families, ensuring that these elite soldiers can continue serving the nation in military and civilian life; and

WHEREAS, as experts in unconventional warfare, counterterrorism, foreign internal defense, reconnaissance, direct action, hostage rescue, and other strategic missions, the United States Army Special Forces, commonly known as Green Berets, are deployed in more than 52 countries and are crucial to securing the United States' national interests throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, due to the high-risk nature of their covert missions and wide range of deployments, often with little direct support, Green Berets have sustained the highest casualty rate in the Special Operations community; the Green Beret Foundation has served more than 800 Green Berets and more than 1,000 families; and

WHEREAS, founded in 2009, the Green Beret Foundation serves members of the Green Berets who have sustained wounds as a result of combat, illness, or injury by providing immediate casualty support, extended support, family support, and transition support; and

WHEREAS, when a Green Beret is wounded or hospitalized, the Green Beret Foundation provides monetary support and a durable backpack loaded with essential supplies for a hospital stay, as well as advice and fellowship for Green Berets and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Green Beret Foundation recognizes that the healing process may take time and works to achieve long-term health for the Green Beret's mind, body, and spirit by supplementing Veterans Health Administration care; the foundation has funded therapy for post-traumatic stress disorder and recovery equipment for Green Berets in need; and

WHEREAS, the Green Beret Foundation strives to create a welcoming, inclusive community for families, hosting special events to foster close bonds, providing support for families of deployed Green Berets and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, and awarding scholarships to young people; and

WHEREAS, most recently, the Green Beret Foundation developed the Next Ridgeline program to provide current and former Green Berets with the tools and training to successfully transition back into civilian life, ensuring that the nation's elite soldiers can become leaders in their communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Green Beret Foundation hereby be commended for its work to serve and support members of the United States Army Special Forces; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Green Beret Foundation as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the foundation's mission to support those who have sacrificed so much in defense of the United States.

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