

## 2017 SESSION

ENROLLED

### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 446

*Celebrating the life of Senior Chief Special Warfare Operator William Ryan Owens.*

Agreed to by the Senate, February 22, 2017  
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 2017

WHEREAS, Senior Chief Special Warfare Operator William Ryan Owens, a decorated member of the elite United States Navy SEAL Team 6, was killed in action while serving his country in Yemen on January 29, 2017; and

WHEREAS, a native of Peoria, Illinois, Ryan Owens attended Illinois Valley Central High School, where he played catcher on the baseball team and was a member of the football team; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Owens fulfilled his lifelong dream to serve his country as a member of the United States Navy when he enlisted in August 1998; he graduated from Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training in 2002 and had been stationed in Virginia Beach as a SEAL since 2007; and

WHEREAS, in 12 deployments, Ryan Owens had earned the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, three Bronze Star Medals, a Joint Service Commendation Medal, and a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, among many other decorations; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Owens' courageous service and sacrifice is a reminder of the dangers faced by American men and women in uniform around the world, who voluntarily go into harm's way in the defense of freedom and liberty; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Owens will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his loving wife, Carryn; their children, Brooke, Luke, and Taryn; his father, William; his grandmother, Evelyn; and numerous other family members, friends, and fellow SEALs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Senior Chief Special Warfare Operator William Ryan Owens, a United States Navy SEAL, who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Senior Chief Special Warfare Operator William Ryan Owens as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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