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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 162

Offered February 23, 2017

*Commending the Virginia Military Institute Corps of Cadets.*

Patrons—Peake, Deeds, Dunnivant, Favola, Hanger, Howell, Norment, Reeves and Ruff

WHEREAS, the Virginia Military Institute Corps of Cadets was selected to perform at the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump on January 20, 2017, continuing a long and proud tradition of participation in presidential inauguration ceremonies; and

WHEREAS, located in Lexington, Virginia Military Institute (VMI) enrolls more than 1,700 men and women each year; the majority of cadets are from Virginia, with other cadets representing nearly every state in the United States and countries around the world; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Military Institute strives to develop well-educated, honorable leaders, who are prepared for the work in a variety of career fields, committed to the ideals of public service, democracy, and free enterprise, and ready to defend the nation as citizen-soldiers if called upon to do so; and

WHEREAS, the VMI Corps of Cadets has participated in presidential inauguration parades since March 1909, when it took part in the inauguration of President William Howard Taft, and it participated in the inaugurations of 10 other presidents from 1913 to 2013; and

WHEREAS, the VMI Corps of Cadets was invited to march at its 15th presidential inauguration when Donald J. Trump became the 45th President of the United States in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the VMI Corps of Cadets trained extensively for the event, drilling on a parade ground and performing uniform inspections on the 15-cadet-wide battalion-sized formations planned for the inauguration day parade; and

WHEREAS, as the last and largest of the parade units, the VMI Corps of Cadets provided a distinguished finale to the historic parade, which marched from the United States Capitol down Pennsylvania Avenue and finished at the White House; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Virginia Military Institute Corps of Cadets hereby be commended for its outstanding performance at the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump in 2017; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Military Institute Corps of Cadets as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration of its legacy of service to United States presidents.

INTRODUCED

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