

2018 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 96

Offered January 30, 2018

Commending the Viking Division.

Patron—Black

WHEREAS, the Viking Division, a Purcellville-based division of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps, was named the top unit in the nation in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps is a national youth program that promotes interest and skill in naval disciplines; officially established in 1962, the organization includes some 10,000 cadets who train from age 13 through the completion of high school; and

WHEREAS, founded in 2015, the Viking Division is comprised of 52 cadets and is sponsored by the National Capital Council of the Navy League of the United States; each year, its members participate in drills and regular training sessions involving everything from military ropes courses to instruction in naval operations and SCUBA diving; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the Viking Division underwent an annual inspection that evaluated cadet conduct, training, recruiting ability, enrollment, attendance, and other factors; and

WHEREAS, following their official review, the Viking Division was awarded the prestigious John J. Bergen Trophy, which honors the outstanding Naval Sea Cadet Corps unit in the nation; in winning the award, the unit beat out 394 other divisions; and

WHEREAS, as a result of their top unit designation, the Viking Division was invited to attend the United States Navy SEAL East Coast reunion near Virginia Beach; during the reunion, cadets observed operations, completed a naval obstacle course, and met with SEAL veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Viking Division's top rating is a tribute to the hard work and dedication of its cadets and the able leadership of its staff, many of whom are law enforcement personnel or veterans of the armed forces; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Viking Division on being designated the top United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps unit in the nation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Viking Division as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the unit's impressive accomplishments and best wishes for continued success.

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