

2021 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 282

Offered February 1, 2021

Commending Mona Gunn.

Patrons—Askew, Adams, D.M., Carr, Convirs-Fowler, Delaney, Guy, Hayes, Heretick, Hope, McQuinn, Rasoul, Reid, Scott and Simonds

WHEREAS, Mona Gunn, an esteemed educator and military advocate, admirably served as the national president of American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mona Gunn earned a bachelor's degree in early elementary education and teaching from Norfolk State University and a master's degree in education and educational leadership and administration from Old Dominion University; and

WHEREAS, Mona Gunn served as a principal with Norfolk Public Schools for more than seven years, contributing greatly to the success of young people both in and out of the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Mona Gunn lost her son, Cherone, tragically in the attack on the USS *Cole* in 2000 and has since then worked tirelessly as an advocate for veterans of the United States military and their families; and

WHEREAS, Mona Gunn chartered the Hampton Roads chapter of American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., an organization of Gold Star mothers that since 1928 has honored the sacrifice of veteran sons and daughters through various initiatives supporting the military community; and

WHEREAS, from June 2019 to June 2020, Mona Gunn served as the national president of American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., and was notably the first African American to hold the position in the organization's history; and

WHEREAS, Mona Gunn's primary motivation while leading American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., was to bring greater awareness to the meaning of the Gold Star and how the distinction unifies families who have lost a family member in military combat; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Mona Gunn, past national president of American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., hereby be commended for her steadfast dedication to supporting United States military veterans, service members, and their families; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Mona Gunn as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for her contributions to the community.

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