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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 705

Offered January 24, 1997

Commending the Virginia National Guard.

Patrons—Bennett, Abbitt, Albo, Almand, Armstrong, Baker, Barlow, Behm, Bloxom, Brickley, Bryant, Callahan, Cantor, Christian, Clement, Connally, Cooper, Cox, Cranwell, Crittenden, Croshaw, Crouch, Cunningham, Darner, Davies, Day, DeBoer, Deeds, Diamonstein, Dickinson, Drake, Dudley, Grayson, Griffith, Guest, Hall, Hamilton, Hargrove, Heilig, Howell, Hull, Ingram, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, D.C., Jones, J.C., Katzen, Keating, Kilgore, Landes, Lovelace, May, McClure, McDonnell, McEachin, Melvin, Mims, Moore, Moran, Morgan, Murphy, Nixon, O'Brien, Orrock, Parrish, Phillips, Puller, Putney, Reid, Rhodes, Rollison, Ruff, Rust, Scott, Sherwood, Shuler, Spruill, Tata, Tate, Thomas, Van Landingham, Wagner, Wardrup, Watkins, Watts, Way, Weatherholtz, Wilkins and Woodrum

Consent to introduce

WHEREAS, on January 21, 1997, the Adjutant General of the Virginia National Guard called for a 46-man detachment to prepare to be deployed to Bosnia; and

WHEREAS, the unit, Detachment 1, 1st Battalion, 246th Field Artillery (Fire Support Element), stationed in Danville, was selected because of its readiness posture; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, January 24, 1997, the unit will report to Fort Pickett to continue training for the planned deployment to Bosnia, where the detachment will assume the role of coordinating and planning artillery support for maneuver forces involved in the peace operations; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Guardsmen will relieve Guardsmen from Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, who have been in Bosnia for the past 18 months as part of the peacekeeping forces; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia detachment's deployment to Bosnia is in support of Operation Joint Guard, the National Guard's operation in Bosnia; and

WHEREAS, if they are sent to Bosnia, the members of the Virginia Guard detachment will be placed at the center of a delicate and potentially dangerous situation, controlled by a multinational peacekeeping force under the auspices of the United Nations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Virginia National Guard and the members of Detachment 1, 1st Battalion, 246th Field Artillery for their devotion to duty and willingness to serve under dangerous and difficult circumstances; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the members of Detachment 1, 1st Battalion, 246th Field Artillery as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for their readiness and willingness to serve their country.

INTRODUCED

HJ705