

1997 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 281

Offered January 17, 1997

Commending Tom Dolan.

Patrons—Whipple, Barry, Benedetti, Bolling, Chichester, Colgan, Couric, Earley, Edwards, Gartlan, Hanger, Hawkins, Holland, Houck, Howell, Lambert, Lucas, Marsh, Martin, Marye, Maxwell, Miller, K.G., Miller, Y.B., Newman, Norment, Potts, Quayle, Reasor, Reynolds, Saslaw, Schrock, Stolle, Stosch, Ticer, Trumbo, Waddell, Walker, Wampler, Williams and Woods

WHEREAS, on July 21, 1996, Tom Dolan, from Arlington County, became the first American to win a gold medal at the centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, the current world-record-holder in the 400-meter individual medley swimming event, Tom Dolan defeated his greatest rival, Eric Namesnik, by the razor-thin margin of .35 second to capture the gold; and

WHEREAS, the final was a two-man race almost from the beginning, with Dolan and Namesnik swapping the lead at each turn, until Tom Dolan surged during the last 50 meters to win the race; and

WHEREAS, years of training, of determination, and of self-denial paid off for Tom Dolan, who overcame serious health problems to win that most precious of swimming rewards, an Olympic gold; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend Tom Dolan for his outstanding performance at the Olympic Games in Atlanta; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Tom Dolan as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his accomplishments and appreciation for so brilliantly representing his country and the Commonwealth at the Olympic Games.

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