

1998 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 111

Offered January 26, 1998

Requesting the Virginia Veterans Cemetery Board to study the establishment of a state veterans cemetery at Hampton Roads.

Patron—Forbes

Referred to the Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Virginia Veterans Cemetery Board was established by the General Assembly in 1995; and

WHEREAS, the Board is charged with the responsibility of advising the Department of Veterans' Affairs regarding the veterans cemeteries in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Virginia has one of the largest populations of veterans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, one of the greatest concentrations of veteran populations in Virginia is to be found in Southeast Virginia; and

WHEREAS, on May 28, 1997, the Commonwealth opened its only state veterans cemetery; and

WHEREAS, this cemetery is located in Amelia County, more than 100 miles from the veterans living in Southeast Virginia; and

WHEREAS, although many national cemeteries are located in Virginia, most of these cemeteries are either filled to capacity or are on the verge of being filled; and

WHEREAS, many Virginia veterans who have earned the right to a military burial in a veterans cemetery find there is nowhere for them to be thus buried except at locations that make it all but impossible for their families to visit their graves; and

WHEREAS, this situation is particularly true for the many veterans who live with their families in Southeastern Virginia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Virginia Veterans Cemetery Board be requested to study the desirability and feasibility of establishing a Virginia state veterans cemetery at Hampton Roads.

The Board shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and the 1999 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

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