

2008 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 186

Offered February 12, 2008

Commending the United States Army Reserve on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Patrons—Martin and Watkins

WHEREAS, the United States Army Reserve will celebrate its historic 100th anniversary in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Army Reserve's mission is to provide trained and ready soldiers and units with the critical combat service and combat support capabilities necessary to protect the nation during peacetime, during any contingency, and in war; and

WHEREAS, the Army Reserve is a key element in the United States Army's multicomponent force, training with active and National Guard units to ensure all three components work as a fully integrated team; and

WHEREAS, a reserve force was established on April 23, 1908, when the Congress of the United States created the Medical Reserve Corps, so that a group of medical officers could be called to active duty in the event of a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, today, that reserve force, which was founded with 360 doctors, is known as the United States Army Reserve, which is a specialized force of over one million "Warrior-Citizens of America"; and

WHEREAS, the concept of the Army Reserve sprung from the idea of the federal "citizen soldier," first proposed by George Washington and the Founding Fathers over 200 years ago; and

WHEREAS, in 1916, Congress passed the National Defense Act that created the Officer's Reserve Corps, the Enlisted Reserve Corps, and the Reserve Officer's Training Corps; and

WHEREAS, more than 160,000 Army Reserve soldiers served on active duty during World War I, and more than 200,000 Army Reserve soldiers were serving their country on active duty on every front by the end of World War II; and

WHEREAS, the brave and dedicated soldiers of the Army Reserve serve on the front lines of the first war of the 21st century as operations continue in both Iraq and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, commands throughout the Army Reserve hosted commemorative events in 2007 and in 2008 will celebrate the Army Reserve's illustrious birthday and demonstrate "100 Years of Army Strong"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate the United States Army Reserve on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the United States Army Reserve as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude and appreciation for its outstanding service to the citizens of the Commonwealth and the nation.

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