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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 403

Offered January 26, 2011

*Commending Major General Jerrold P. Allen, USAF (Ret.).*

Patrons—Edwards, Barker, Blevins, Colgan, Deeds, Hanger, Herring, Houck, Howell, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Marsh, Martin, McDougle, McEachin, McWaters, Miller, J.C., Newman, Norment, Northam, Obenshain, Petersen, Puckett, Puller, Quayle, Reynolds, Ruff, Saslaw, Smith, Stanley, Stosch, Stuart, Ticer, Vogel, Wagner, Watkins and Whipple

WHEREAS, Major General Jerrold P. Allen, United States Air Force retired, will end his 12 years of distinguished service as Commandant of Cadets at Virginia Tech in June 2011; and

WHEREAS, a native of California, Jerrold Allen graduated from high school in Brattleboro, Vermont, before earning a bachelor's degree from the United States Air Force Academy and a master's degree from Golden Gate University; and

WHEREAS, a highly decorated combat veteran and admired leader, Jerrold Allen flew 250 combat missions in Vietnam and, over the course of his illustrious Air Force career, commanded the 319th Bombardment Wing, 96th Wing, and 7th Wing; and

WHEREAS, Jerrold Allen is the recipient of the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, and Air Medal with 13 oak clusters; and

WHEREAS, a respected officer, Jerrold Allen was promoted to major general on September 28, 1994, and served as director of plans and policy at Headquarters United States European Command, before being named Commandant of Cadets at Virginia Tech in 1999; and

WHEREAS, under the outstanding leadership of Major General Allen, the Corps of Cadets at Virginia Tech has continued its proud tradition of excellence in preparing leaders to serve our great nation; and

WHEREAS, under Major General Allen's tenure, the Corps Cadets produced the number one United States Marine graduate in a class of 700 at Officer Candidates School in 2009 and 80 percent of the Corps Cadets earned military commissions compared to 35-50 percent at other schools; and

WHEREAS, at the United States Army summer camp in 2008, the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets stood out with the highest pass rate (100 percent) and earned the top scores for all senior military colleges in physical fitness, marksmanship, and water survival; and

WHEREAS, Major General Allen has emphasized the importance of well-trained cadets who excel academically; in 2008, the Corps of Cadets had its highest fall average quality credit average on record; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to preparing future officers of the United States military, Major General Allen has continued the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets' strong focus on building young men and women who lead with integrity and commitment; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Corps of Cadets has been designated as the Virginia Tech Undergraduate Leader of the Year from 2004-2009 while graduates were named the Top United States Navy Midshipman for the nation in 2001 and 2005; and

WHEREAS, in 2007 and 2008, cadets won the coveted Medal of Honor Foundation/Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association scholarship; only four winners are chosen nationwide and Virginia Tech is the only school in the nation with consecutive recipients; and

WHEREAS, Major General Allen has served the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets with his trademark devotion to duty and made significant contributions that have enabled the Corps to continue to produce this nation's military leaders; and

WHEREAS, during a long and remarkable career, Major General Allen has been supported by his wife, Joan, and children, Craig and Crystal, and now looks forward to his new endeavors in Texas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend Major General Jerrold P. Allen, USAF (Ret.), on the occasion of his retirement as the Commandant of Cadets at Virginia Tech; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Major General Jerrold P. Allen, USAF (Ret.), as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations, admiration for his exemplary service, and best wishes in his future endeavors.

INTRODUCED

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