

14100374D

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 40

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled January 5, 2014

Commending Captain Jason A. Haag, USMC (Ret.).

Patron—Reeves

WHEREAS, Captain Jason A. Haag, USMC (Ret.), is commended for his devoted service to the nation and for courageously sharing his struggles with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury to help other veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, a four-sport athlete in high school, Jason Haag was offered scholarships to play football in college and had a contract offer to play minor league baseball, but chose instead to serve his country by joining the United States Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, Jason Haag was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, Fifth Marines, Echo Company, Regimental Combat Team 5, which was charged with securing Iraqi oil fields before moving on to Baghdad; he would receive the Purple Heart for injuries received while stationed in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Jason Haag later returned to the United States to receive officer training, earning a promotion to lieutenant before returning to Iraq, where he would lead more than 100 supply convoys; he completed his third tour in Afghanistan assigned to a Command Control Center; and

WHEREAS, between deployments, Jason Haag would return home to his wife and three children, who noticed behavioral changes that were initially thought to be part of "periods of adjustment"; and

WHEREAS, after Jason Haag returned from his final deployment, his wife, Elizabeth, realized that he needed more extensive help, and he began treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury; and

WHEREAS, both Jason Haag and his wife, Elizabeth, began to blog about their experiences; they have provided honest insight into living with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury; and

WHEREAS, Jason Haag has provided exemplary service to the nation and, through the courageous telling of his battle with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, invaluable service to his fellow veterans, their families, and the public; and

WHEREAS, Jason Haag's wife, Elizabeth, and their family have exemplified the determination, resilience, and compassion of families of United States Armed Forces members throughout the nation and around the world; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Captain Jason A. Haag, USMC (Ret.), for his exemplary military service and dedication to helping his fellow veterans; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Captain Jason A. Haag, USMC (Ret.), as an expression of the General Assembly's abiding respect for his sacrifices for and service to his country.

INTRODUCED

SJ40