

2016 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 38

Commending Craig Blackman.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 15, 2016

WHEREAS, Craig Blackman, a highly admired history teacher in Chesapeake, earned the 2015 Smart/Maher Veterans of Foreign Wars National Citizenship Education Teacher Award for his work to honor fallen service members and impart his sense of civic pride to his students; and

WHEREAS, the Smart/Maher Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) National Citizenship Education Teacher Award is presented to teachers who promote civic responsibility, flag etiquette, or patriotism; Craig Blackman was nominated by VFW Post 2894 in Chesapeake for a project he assigned to his students at Indian River High School; and

WHEREAS, Craig Blackman directed each of the students in his advanced placement history class to research one of the 25 residents of Chesapeake killed during the Vietnam War; students used official records and located and interviewed surviving family members to draft short biographies of the service members, whose sacrifices had gone largely unrecognized; and

WHEREAS, at a Memorial Day ceremony, Craig Blackman's students escorted family members of the fallen soldiers and placed commemorative bricks at the Chesapeake Veterans Memorial; and

WHEREAS, deeply respected by his peers and admired by his students, Craig Blackman has earned many awards and accolades, and he has written numerous books and articles on American service members from the Revolutionary War to the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, Craig Blackman was presented the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award at a special ceremony in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in July 2015 and also received a cash prize for personal development and a donation to Indian River High School; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Craig Blackman hereby be commended for winning the 2015 Smart/Maher Veterans of Foreign Wars National Citizenship Education Teacher Award; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Craig Blackman as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his devotion to serving and inspiring the future leaders of the Commonwealth.

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