

2016 SESSION

INTRODUCED

16100205D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 68

Offered January 13, 2016

Prefiled January 12, 2016

Commending Daniel Hillenburg.

Patron—Hugo

WHEREAS, while on a fishing trip in Alaska in the summer of 2014, Daniel Hillenburg of Clifton, a member of Boy Scouts of America Troop 648, helped save the lives of two men by providing first aid to a kayaker with hypothermia and helping to initiate a search and rescue operation for another kayaker, who was lost in a sparsely populated area; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Hillenburg and his father, Samuel, spotted a kayaker in distress at the intersection of the Talkeetna River and Clear Creek near Talkeetna, Alaska; the man was pale and nearly unresponsive, and Daniel Hillenburg quickly identified the man's condition as hypothermia thanks to his Red Cross training from the Boy Scouts; and

WHEREAS, after Daniel Hillenburg and his father helped the man to shore and warmed him up, they learned that he had been exposed to the elements for nearly 24 hours; he was suffering from tunnel vision, and his body temperature had fallen to approximately 80 degrees Fahrenheit; and

WHEREAS, while helping the kayaker recover, Daniel Hillenburg also learned that the kayaker's partner was still nearly 25 miles upriver, traveling alone and on foot because they had lost a paddle; state troopers and local residents were alerted to the second missing kayaker and located him alive; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his bravery and quick thinking, Daniel Hillenburg received the Medal of Merit from the Boy Scouts of America at a special ceremony on April 18, 2015; he was the first Scout in the 65-year history of Troop 648 to receive the prestigious award; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Daniel Hillenburg hereby be commended for his pivotal role in the rescue of two kayakers in Alaska in 2014; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Daniel Hillenburg as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his heroic, life-saving actions.

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