

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 428

Commending the Honorable John William Warner.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 22, 2017
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 2017

WHEREAS, the Honorable John William Warner has dedicated his life to the service of the Commonwealth and the United States as a veteran, a member of the United States Department of Defense, and a United States Senator; and

WHEREAS, a native of Washington, D.C., John Warner graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School and joined many of the other young men of his generation in service to the nation during World War II, enlisting in the United States Navy in 1945; and

WHEREAS, after returning home, John Warner graduated from Washington and Lee University and attended the University of Virginia School of Law; he again answered the call to service at the outset of the Korean War in 1950, joining the United States Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, John Warner continued to serve with the United States Marine Corps Reserve, rising to the rank of captain, and completed his law degree at The George Washington University in 1953; he began his legal career as a law clerk for a chief judge of the United States Court of Appeals and became an assistant United States Attorney, before entering private practice with Hogan & Hartson; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, John Warner was appointed as Undersecretary of the Navy for President Richard M. Nixon, and in 1972, he became Secretary of the Navy; he was appointed by President Gerald R. Ford, Jr., to participate in the creation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and negotiated the Incidents at Sea agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of further service to the nation, John Warner ran for and was elected to the United States Senate and represented the residents of the Commonwealth from 1979 to 2009; he worked to build consensus on gun control, women's rights, and energy reform, earning respect from colleagues on both sides of the aisle; and

WHEREAS, John Warner offered his expertise and leadership to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence; as chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, he supported and expanded the Commonwealth's numerous military installations; and

WHEREAS, John Warner retired from public office in 2009 after five terms in the United States Senate; at the time of his retirement, he was one of only five World War II veterans in the United States Senate; and

WHEREAS, John Warner received numerous awards and accolades for his lifetime of service, including the first ever National Intelligence Distinguished Public Service Medal from the Director of National Intelligence and the title of Knight Commander from Elizabeth II of England for his work to strengthen relations between the United States and Great Britain; and

WHEREAS, the USS *John Warner*, the first Virginia-class submarine to be named for a person instead of a state, and the Senator John W. Warner Center for Advanced Military Studies at Marine Corps University in Quantico were both named in his honor; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Honorable John William Warner, a consummate public servant and a true statesman, on the occasion of his 90th birthday on February 18, 2017; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Honorable John William Warner as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his exceptional service to the Commonwealth and the United States.

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