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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 155

Offered February 21, 2017

*Commending Lieutenant Commander Richard C. Vale, USN, Ret.*Patron—Black

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Commander Richard C. Vale, USN, Ret., retired from the United States Navy Reserve in September 2015, after nearly three decades of honorable service to the Commonwealth and the nation; and

WHEREAS, a native of Baltimore, Maryland, Richard Vale graduated from Howard County High School and joined the United States Navy in 1987; he graduated from the Nuclear Power School in 1989 and the Naval Academy Preparatory School in 1990; and

WHEREAS, Richard Vale was selected to attend the United States Naval Academy, graduating with the Class of 1994, and continued his studies at the Nuclear Power School as an officer; and

WHEREAS, after completing the Submarine Officer Basic Course, Richard Vale was stationed aboard the USS *William H. Bates* submarine from 1996 to 1999; he then joined the Operational Test and Evaluation Force in Norfolk, which provides independent evaluation of the nation's naval warfare capabilities; and

WHEREAS, Richard Vale offered his expertise to the Office of Naval Research Science and Technology Departments from 2003 to 2008, then deployed to Afghanistan in support of International Security Assistance Force Afghanistan in 2009; and

WHEREAS, from 2009 to 2015, Richard Vale was assigned to Undersea Warfare Operations Detachment T, and he supported the development of the Global Thunder exercise before his well-earned retirement as a member of the United States Navy Reserve in 2015; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished military career, Richard Vale earned numerous awards and decorations, including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal, and the Meritorious Unit Commendation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Lieutenant Commander Richard C. Vale, USN, Ret., hereby be commended on his retirement from military service in 2015; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Lieutenant Commander Richard C. Vale, USN, Ret., as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for his dedicated service to the Commonwealth and the United States.

INTRODUCED

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