

1997 SESSION

ENGROSSED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 589

House Amendments in [] — January 29, 1997

Encouraging Virginia's public schools to observe Veterans Day.

Patron—Dillard

Referred to Committee on Education

WHEREAS, the freedoms enjoyed today by all citizens of the United States have been defended and preserved by veterans of military service, dating back to the Revolutionary War; and

WHEREAS, students of all ages in Virginia's public schools should be aware of the continuing contributions of veterans to the achievements and culture of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Day ceremonies at national cemeteries and in local communities are often remote from most schools, making student attendance at such ceremonies impractical; and

WHEREAS, the most practical means of emphasizing veterans' role in our history and in our present-day society is to conduct Veterans Day ceremonies in each school; and

WHEREAS, local veterans' organizations are eager to assist, where feasible, in school ceremonies honoring Veterans Day; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Day is a holiday for some, but not all, of Virginia's public schools, because local school boards establish school district calendars, including which holidays will be observed; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Day observances in Virginia's public schools are likewise optional, at the discretion of school administrators; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That [~~the General Assembly hereby encourage~~] Virginia's public schools [be encouraged] to [~~conduct~~ observe] Veterans Day [with appropriate] observances on the school day that falls on or closest to November 11th; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That any such Veterans Day observances include, where feasible, the participation of veterans from the local community [; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Director of the Virginia School Boards Association, requesting that they further disseminate copies of this resolution among their respective constituencies in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly in this matter] .

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