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Senate Joint Resolution No. 79 Commending Raymond W. Hudlow

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 79

Offered January 9, 2002

Prefiled January 9, 2002

Commending Raymond W. Hudlow.

Patrons—Newman; Delegate: Byron

WHEREAS, the now-discredited pseudo-science of eugenics was based on theories first propounded in England by Francis Galton, the cousin and disciple of famed biologist Charles Darwin; and

WHEREAS, in 1924, Virginia passed two eugenics-related laws, the second of which permitted involuntary sterilization, the most egregious outcome of the lamentable eugenics movement in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, under this act, those labeled "feebleminded," including the "insane, idiotic, imbecile, feebleminded or epileptic" could be involuntarily sterilized, so that they would not produce similarly disabled offspring; and

WHEREAS, in 1941, Raymond Hudlow, a 16-year-old boy who repeatedly ran away from home to escape an abusive father, was committed to the Virginia Colony for Epileptics and Feebleminded near Lynchburg; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 1942, an Amherst County Circuit Court judge granted the Virginia Colony's request that Raymond Hudlow be sterilized; and

WHEREAS, in October of 1943, Raymond Hudlow was released from the Virginia Colony, was drafted into the U.S. Army two months later, and in August 1944, was at Omaha Beach in France two months after D-Day; and

WHEREAS, Raymond Hudlow saw combat in France, Belgium, and Holland, was wounded in the left knee and captured by the Germans, was in various prison camps for seven months before being liberated by the Russians, and was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor, the Purple Heart, and the Prisoner of War Medal; and

WHEREAS, Raymond Hudlow, who served honorably in the U.S. Army and Air Force for 21 years, now lives in Campbell County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Raymond W. Hudlow for his distinguished military career and for his service to the nation during World War II; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Raymond W. Hudlow as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his courage, determination, and patriotism.

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Agreed to By The Senate		**Agreed to By The House of Delegates**	
with amendment	☐	with amendment	☐
substitute	☐	substitute	☐
substitute w/amdt	☐	substitute w/amdt	☐

Date: _____ Date: _____

Clerk of the Senate | Clerk of the House of Delegates