

No. R-496. House concurrent resolution commemorating the founding of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at Norwich University on its centennial anniversary.

(H.C.R.293)

Offered by: Representatives Donahue of Northfield, Grad of Moretown, and Lewis of Berlin

Offered by: Senators Cummings, Doyle, and Pollina

Whereas, the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) enables higher education institutions, in addition to the U.S. Armed Forces' own academies, to educate our nation's future military officers, and

Whereas, the concept of ROTC dates to the Morrill Act of 1862 that established land-grant colleges at which military tactics were to be taught, and

Whereas, it was not until shortly prior to World War I and Congress's passage of the National Defense Act of 1916 that ROTC was established, and

Whereas, the first ROTC unit was formed in 1916 at Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont, and

Whereas, during the past century, ROTC has evolved into an essential program for training future U.S. military officers, and

Whereas, in 2016, there are U.S. Air Force, Army, and Navy ROTC programs, and

Whereas, ROTC is offered at six private or state senior military colleges, including Norwich University, the Citadel, Texas A&M University, the University of North Georgia, Virginia Military Institute, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; at many civilian colleges; and at junior military colleges, some participating in ROTC's early commissioning program, and

Whereas, in celebration of ROTC's centennial anniversary, Norwich University is conducting special events on April 21–23, 2016, including a keynote address that U.S. Army Chief of Staff General Mark Milley will deliver at Kreitzberg Arena; a second keynote address that Lieutenant General H.R. McMaster, the deputy director at the Army Capabilities Integration Center, will deliver; a panel discussion on "Preparing for the Next Century of ROTC," featuring National Public Radio's Pentagon reporter Tom Bowman moderating, and including military and business leaders as participants; a ceremony at the State House; and several other commemorative activities, including a worldwide synchronized 5k fun run, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the founding of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at Norwich University on its centennial anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Norwich University President Richard Schneider.