

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 780

By Windle

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Clarkrange JROTC Raiders upon winning the 2019 All-Service Raider National Championship.

WHEREAS, we are proud to honor those high school students and their instructors whose commitment to this nation and dedication to excellence can only be categorized as outstanding; and

WHEREAS, the members and instructors of the Clarkrange High School Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) comprise one such admirable and deserving group; and

WHEREAS, led by 1st Sergeant Gilbert Sandoval, the Clarkrange JROTC Raiders recently won the 2019 All-Service Raider National Championship in the Coed Division for the second consecutive year; they were previously the Runner-Up National Champions in 2016 and 2017; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2019, the Clarkrange JROTC Raiders competed against the twenty best teams in the nation from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and military academies in a series of four physical events held at the Lawhorn Scout Reservation near Molena, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, in the Gauntlet event, the ten cadets sprinted down a trail with two thirty-five-pound packs and two forty-pound ammunition crates; they jumped through a twenty-two-inch tire that was suspended five feet in the air, then continued down the trail to an eight-foot wall. After clearing the wall with their equipment, the cadets continued down the trail, running and maneuvering through two long and narrow culverts before sprinting 500 yards through the

mud to the finish line. The Clarkrange JROTC Raiders placed first in this event with a time of six minutes and forty-nine seconds; and

WHEREAS, the cadets then moved on to the Physical Team Test, where the cadets carried two fifty-pound cans and then completed a number of sprints, all while encountering hurdles, culverts, a maze, and a canoe weighing 250 pounds, which had to be picked up and carried; the cadets finished with a time of three minutes and forty-eight seconds to secure first place again; and

WHEREAS, the Clarkrange JROTC Raiders also placed first in the 5K, a 3.2-mile run from the river to the top of the mountain and back; they completed this in twenty-seven minutes and four seconds; and

WHEREAS, the final event was the One Rope Bridge Construction, which required the cadets to sprint to a 200-foot rope coiled on the ground behind a tree, secure the rope on both ends of a ninety-foot river, and then have eight cadets hook onto the rope and cross upside down across the river; the final cadet untied the rope from the tree and crossed the river, and they removed all knots from the rope. The Clarkrange JROTC completed this in two minutes and twenty seconds and placed second; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Clarkrange JROTC Raiders are Leanna Norris, Rachel Kennedy, Zoe Wall, Arissa Ripley, Tommy Stephens, Joseph Chalfant, Colby Mize, Zach Labelle, John Flowers, Trent Luers, and Gavin Hayes; and

WHEREAS, serving as an example of the exceptional quality of Tennessee's youth, the Clarkrange High School Army JROTC members showed great capability and outstanding character, conducting themselves in a manner appropriate to the integrity of the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, we are pleased to recognize the Clarkrange High School Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the fine members and instructors of the

Clarkrange High School Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps upon winning the 2019 All-Service Raider National Championship and wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.