

RESOLUTION HONORING

Ensign Sarah Mitchell

WHEREAS, United States Navy Ensign Sarah Mitchell was a 2017 graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets, having earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry while minoring in Chemistry and Leadership Studies; and

WHEREAS, while a student at Virginia Tech and member of the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets, Sarah Mitchell was a member of the Surface Warfare Society, the Scabbard and Blade Honor Society, and the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Ordnance Staff; and

WHEREAS, Ensign Mitchell demonstrated exceptional leadership traits from her first year as a cadet, leading to her appointments as the Naval ROTC Platoon Commander in the spring of 2016 and Commander of Alpha Company the fall of her senior year; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation, Sarah Mitchell was commissioned as a Surface Warfare Officer in the United States Navy, and reported for duty on June 5, 2017 to the *Arleigh Burke*-class guided-missile destroyer USS *Jason Dunham*, based in Norfolk, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2018, Sarah Mitchell tragically lost her life due to injuries sustained from a small boat incident that occurred during training exercises in the Red Sea; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Mitchell was well respected by her peers, subordinates, and superiors, and epitomized the university's motto, *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve), along with all other core values that are inherent to Virginia Tech – Brotherhood, Honor, Leadership, Sacrifice, Service, Loyalty, and Duty; and

WHEREAS, Ensign Mitchell made the ultimate sacrifice for her country, and will be remembered in perpetuity for her unwavering courage and valor;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Board of Visitors proudly honors Ensign Sarah Mitchell for her steadfast loyalty to her country and the ideals of "*Ut Prosim*," and for making the ultimate sacrifice in service to her country.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the resolution honoring Ensign Sarah Mitchell be approved.

August 27, 2018