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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 286

Offered January 23, 2004

Memorializing the Congress of the United States to increase the federal burial allowance for veterans.

Patron—Pollard

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the men and women who have served in our national military have made great sacrifices to protect the freedoms we all enjoy, freedoms granted by the founding fathers of our great country; and

WHEREAS, these men and women are afforded honor even in their deaths with burial in our national cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, the 2002 Governor's Advisory Commission for Veterans Affairs reported the average cost of a burial for a veteran was \$1,275.00; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs currently provides a \$300.00 burial allowance to our veterans; and

WHEREAS, the 2002 Virginia Governor's Advisory Commission for Veterans Affairs recommended that the Governor support a move to increase the federal burial allowance to veterans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Congress of the United States be urged to increase the federal burial allowance for veterans to a minimum of \$750.00; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.