

## 2013 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 373

Offered January 24, 2013

*Celebrating the life of James Neff Houff.*

Patron—Deeds

WHEREAS, James Neff Houff, the mayor of Clifton Forge who served his hometown with great faithfulness and enthusiasm, died on October 19, 2012; and

WHEREAS, a native of Clifton Forge, James "Jimmie" Houff graduated from Clifton Forge High School and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, an economist, Jimmie Houff spent his career with the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, retiring in 1999 after decades of distinguished service; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Jimmie Houff returned to the town of his birth and youth and took an active role in community affairs; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie Houff reunited with old classmates as president of the Clifton Forge High School Alumni Association, working to ensure that the Mountaineer spirit remained strong among former students; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie Houff also served as vice president of the Cowpasture River Preservation Association and as a member of the C & O Railway Heritage Center, Alleghany Highlands Arts and Crafts Center, local Elks Club, Clifton Forge Coffee Club, and St. Joseph's Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie Houff sought to enhance and share the scenic beauty and rich heritage of Clifton Forge, taking part in community revitalization efforts as secretary of the Alleghany Highlands Economic Development Corporation; and

WHEREAS, a popular figure in the community, Jimmie Houff won election to the Clifton Forge Town Council in 2006 and represented the town on the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission; he served as vice mayor from 2007 to 2008 and was elected mayor in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie Houff worked diligently alongside other council members, local government officials, and regional leaders to ensure the efficient and effective operation of local government for residents while also laboring for the town's future well-being; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie Houff touched the lives of countless individuals with his energetic support of his family, friends, and hometown and will be greatly missed by his wife of 34 years, Dimmitt; children, Helen, James, Emilee, Carrie, and Andrew, and their families; and his numerous other family members, friends, and admirers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of a dedicated public servant, the mayor of Clifton Forge, James Neff Houff; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of James Neff Houff as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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