

2015 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 562

Celebrating the life of Dennis Owen Burnett.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 23, 2015
Agreed to by the Senate, January 29, 2015

WHEREAS, Dennis Owen Burnett, a man whose enthusiasm, energy, and vision were focused on fostering a healthy economy for the Shenandoah Valley, and a friend to all who knew him, died on October 21, 2014; and

WHEREAS, a native of Waynesboro, Dennis Burnett graduated from Fort Defiance High School and attended Blue Ridge Community College; earlier in his career he was deputy director of the Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport and also had been an executive with Colgan Air, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his death, Dennis Burnett, who lived in Staunton, was executive director of the Shenandoah Valley Partnership; he had spent most of his professional life in business and economic development and was a tireless, upbeat, and visionary promoter of the area; and

WHEREAS, before starting work at the Shenandoah Valley Partnership in 2013, Dennis Burnett had become the first director of economic development for Augusta County; in his fourth year as director, the county gained more than 330 jobs and \$110.9 million in business investment; and

WHEREAS, a longtime supporter of the community, Dennis Burnett was involved with the United Way of Greater Augusta, the Rotary Club of Staunton-Augusta County, the Virginia Economic Developers Association, and he recently had received a gubernatorial appointment to the Virginia Manufacturing Development Commission; and

WHEREAS, Dennis Burnett will be remembered for his exuberance, ability to motivate and lead others, and unceasing dedication to ensuring a healthy and growing economy for the people and businesses of the Shenandoah Valley; and

WHEREAS, Dennis Burnett will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by his wife, Cynthia; his father, Vernon; many other family members; and a multitude of friends and colleagues from throughout the Shenandoah Valley; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Dennis Owen Burnett, a dedicated public servant who strove to make the Shenandoah Valley a vibrant and healthy place for all who live there; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Dennis Owen Burnett as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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