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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 617

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled January 13, 2015

Commending Colbert-Moran Funeral Home Inc.

Patrons—Adams and Marshall, D.W.; Senators: Ruff and Stanley

WHEREAS, Colbert-Moran Funeral Home Inc., celebrated 100 years of service and compassionate care to the people of Gretna and Pittsylvania County in 2014; and

WHEREAS, A.T. Colbert and his son, Ollie M. Colbert, established Gretna's first funeral home in 1914; the business was in a two-story building, above a general store, and the company is proud to be in the same location in downtown Gretna today; and

WHEREAS, a year after the Colberts founded the funeral establishment, Ollie Colbert decided to become an embalmer and establish a separate business; in 1915, he enrolled at an embalming school in New York; and

WHEREAS, as time went by and automobiles became more common, changes took place at the business on North Main Street; the operations soon included Gretna's second gas station, as gas pumps were installed in front of the building; and

WHEREAS, major renovations took place in 1930 when the upper floor of the building was demolished and the funeral home operations were moved to the first floor; in 1948, road construction on U.S. Route 29 resulted in the entire building being relocated several feet back; and

WHEREAS, A.T. Colbert sold the business to Carl and Fran Moran in 1965, who continued the company's mission to be a professional, caring family-run funeral home; Carl Moran was a licensed funeral director and his wife was the organist and receptionist; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, the Morans created a Colonial-style sand-brick finish structure to house Colbert-Moran Funeral Home; the clean and modern facility is well-designed to serve the community and each family's specific needs; and

WHEREAS, after Carl Moran's death in 1995, his wife and children continued to run the business; today, Colbert-Moran Funeral Home is operated by sons Kenny and Bruce Moran, and their sister, Susan Moran George, provides office help; and

WHEREAS, Colbert-Moran Funeral Home also relies on a loyal staff of dedicated funeral service professionals, including Yancy Moran, the third-generation family member in the business; and

WHEREAS, well aware of its small-town roots, Colbert-Moran Funeral Home has participated in and donated to many civic and charitable activities in Gretna and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, in its century of service, Colbert-Moran Funeral Home has striven to provide personal and attentive care in a family's time of bereavement and to honor the wishes of the families and those who have died; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Colbert-Moran Funeral Home Inc., on the occasion of its 100th anniversary of providing professional service and care to the people of Gretna and Pittsylvania County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Fran Moran, a co-owner of Colbert-Moran Funeral Home Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for the company's 100 years of successful operation and its commitment to provide professional and compassionate funeral services.

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