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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 301

Offered January 20, 2015

Commending Morgan Lumber Company, Inc.

Patrons—Ruff; Delegates: Edmunds and Wright

WHEREAS, Morgan Lumber Company, Inc., in Red Oak celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2014; the manufacturer of southern yellow pine lumber has been a family-run business for more than four generations; and

WHEREAS, when it was founded in 1939 by J.C. Morgan and his sons, Billy and Willard, Morgan Lumber Company's operations and equipment were primitive and labor-intensive; a manual portable ground sawmill was transported from place to place and the work was done on site; and

WHEREAS, in its early years, Morgan Lumber Company's portable mill produced about 5,000 board feet of lumber daily, and a crew of 10, accompanied by horses or a tractor, felled the trees, hauled the logs, and fed them into the mill; and

WHEREAS, the company's finished product was used in building and bridge construction and for railroad crossties; today, Morgan Lumber Company produces at its modern computerized facility in Charlotte County more than 200,000 board feet of lumber a day for a variety of uses; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Morgan Lumber Company is to consistently and efficiently produce for its customers value-added products of superior quality while providing employees with a safe and positive work environment; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of J. Kenneth Morgan, Jr., chair of Morgan Lumber Company, the company has invested wisely in both people and equipment—and the company's commitment to safety is paramount; and

WHEREAS, Morgan Lumber Company has 85 employees who operate highly specialized equipment, and a fleet of trucks to transport the lumber; the company has invested in a computerized sawmill, a dry kiln, and a planer mill; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the lumber mill, two other companies are now part of the Morgan Lumber Company enterprise: Morgan Lumber Sales brokerage trades lumber in the eastern part of the United States, and Sunrise Shavings produces and bags kiln-dried pine shavings for the equine and pet markets; and

WHEREAS, Morgan Lumber Company is in the forefront of the Commonwealth's lumber industry and is committed to being a good steward of the environment; it supports Virginia's Reforestation of Timberlands State Fund and the company promotes best management practices for its logging operations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Morgan Lumber Company, Inc., on the occasion of its 75th anniversary in 2014; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to J. Kenneth Morgan, Jr., chair of Morgan Lumber Company, Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and congratulations for the company's many years of business success and for being a responsible steward of one of the Commonwealth's renewable natural resources.

INTRODUCED

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