

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 344

Commending Micronic Technologies.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 26, 2016
Agreed to by the Senate, March 3, 2016

WHEREAS, Micronic Technologies in Wise, which is developing a state-of-the-art water treatment system that could be used by industries worldwide, has won the prestigious Open Innovation Challenge, a competition sponsored by GE and Statoil; and

WHEREAS, the Open Innovation Challenge encourages accelerated development of environmentally and economically sustainable energy solutions; Micronic Technologies responded to a global open challenge focused on reducing water use in onshore oil and gas operations; and

WHEREAS, Micronic Technologies was one of four winners of the challenge, which includes an initial \$25,000 cash prize; the woman-owned firm was founded in 2008 to develop, patent, and commercialize an advanced water treatment system called MicroDesal that removes myriad contaminants; and

WHEREAS, Micronic Technologies has worked for years to develop the MicroDesal water treatment system; the Open Innovation Challenge named the company a winner because of the potential MicroDesal has to remove contaminants from the massive amounts of water used in the onshore oil and gas industry; and

WHEREAS, the MicroDesal water purification system is lightweight, durable, and sustainable; Micronic Technologies' innovative system features several unique characteristics, including a low-pressure, low-temperature air stream to aid evaporation, and a chambered cylinder processing unit; and

WHEREAS, the MicroDesal system currently is in advanced engineering development; it can remove virtually all contaminants from water and clean it to potable standards, using equipment that needs no membranes, filters, or chemicals; and

WHEREAS, MicroDesal can be used for water purification efforts in agriculture, desalination plants, and industrial wastewater facilities; Micronic Technologies is working quickly to make the water treatment system available commercially; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Micronic Technologies moved its operations from Northern Virginia to Wise to take advantage of economic development opportunities, workforce availability, and excellent facilities; it is located in the Appalachian American Energy Research Center in Wise; and

WHEREAS, Micronic Technologies exemplifies the entrepreneurial drive shown by many small businesses throughout the Commonwealth; the firm also has received state and federal funding and a grant from the Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission, and it works closely with the University of Virginia's College at Wise; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Micronic Technologies for being named a winner in the prestigious Open Innovation Challenge sponsored by GE and Statoil; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Karen D. Sorber, executive chair and chief executive officer of Micronic Technologies, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for its outstanding and award-winning efforts to develop an innovative water purification method.

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