

2016 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 446

Offered March 4, 2016

Commending James Earp.

Patron—Rush

WHEREAS, James Earp has dedicated his life to serving and strengthening the Christiansburg community as a respected educator, principal, and coach and a patriotic veteran; and

WHEREAS, a native of Mountain City, Tennessee, James "Buddy" Earp was a star football player at Virginia High School in Bristol and was recruited by Emory & Henry College; he helped lead the Emory & Henry College football team to the Tangerine Bowl as team captain; and

WHEREAS, during the Korean War, Buddy Earp enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, which allowed him to finish his senior year of college before attending officer training; and

WHEREAS, joining many of the other young men of his generation in service to the nation, Buddy Earp deployed to Korea as a second lieutenant assigned to an artillery unit and earned a Purple Heart when he was wounded in action; after the war, he joined the United States Marine Corps Forces Reserve and pursued a graduate degree from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Earp joined the faculty of Christiansburg High School as a physical education, Spanish, and English teacher, and in 1954, he became head coach of the football team; he also established the school's track and field team, which won the state championship in only its third season; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Earp served as principal of Christiansburg High School from 1964 to 1970 and worked to provide a positive atmosphere for both teachers and students; he also served as principal of Marion Senior High School and Glenvar High School before his well-earned retirement in 1985; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Earp remained active in the community, including as a member of the local American Legion and Kiwanis Club, with which he helped established youth athletics teams in the area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend James Earp for his legacy of service to the Christiansburg community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to James Earp as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his tireless contributions to the residents of Christiansburg.

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