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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 132

Offered March 7, 2022

Celebrating the life of Lieutenant Colonel Daniel L. Benka, USA, Ret.

Patron—Brewer

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Daniel L. Benka, USA, Ret., a respected resident of the Tri-City area, died on January 26, 2021; and

WHEREAS, a native of Wisconsin, Daniel Benka graduated from Cudahy High School in Milwaukee County and continued his education at Ripon College, where he earned a bachelor's degree in economics, played football, and was a member of the Reserve Officer Training Corps program; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Benka was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army and served the nation in uniform from 1961 to 1987; he completed two tours of duty in Vietnam, was stationed in France and Korea, and served at the Defense General Supply Center in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his distinguished military career, Daniel Benka received the Bronze Star, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Benka earned a master's degree in economics from the Florida Institute of Technology in 1978, and after his retirement from the military, he worked for the United States Department of Defense and Dominion Energy; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Benka offered his leadership and wisdom to many civic and service organizations, including American Legion Post 146, local Veterans of Foreign Wars and Lion's Club posts, and the Loyal Order of the Moose; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Benka was a life member of the Virginia Junior Chamber, known as the Jaycees, and served the organization as a Junior Chamber International (JCI) senator, the Virginia JCI Senate president, District of Columbia JCI Senate president, and national vice president; he was a platinum-level member of the US JCI Senate Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Benka enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as a longtime member of Saint James Catholic Church, where he was a third degree member of the Knights of Columbus; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Benka's beloved wife, Elizabeth, died shortly after him in February 2021; he is fondly remembered and greatly missed by his children, Matthew and Joanna, and their families, and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Lieutenant Colonel Daniel L. Benka, USA, Ret.; 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 Lieutenant Colonel Daniel L. Benka, USA, Ret., as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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