

## 2022 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 159

Offered February 23, 2022

*Celebrating the life of Naval Air Crewman 2nd Class James P. Buriak, USN.*

Patrons—DeSteph, Barker, Bell, Boysko, Chase, Cosgrove, Deeds, Dunnavant, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Hackworth, Hanger, Hashmi, Howell, Kiggans, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Mason, McClellan, McDougale, McPike, Morrissey, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Peake, Petersen, Pillion, Reeves, Ruff, Saslaw, Spruill, Stanley, Stuart, Suetterlein, Surovell and Vogel; Delegates: Byron and McNamara

WHEREAS, Naval Air Crewman 2nd Class James P. Buriak, USN, of Salem, died in the line of duty on August 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, James "Jimmy" Buriak graduated from Salem High School and earned a bachelor's degree in sports management from Roanoke College; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of service to the nation, Jimmy Buriak joined the United States Navy and was assigned to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 8 based at Naval Air Station North Island in San Diego; and

WHEREAS, while on Gun Beach in Guam in 2020, Jimmy Buriak, a trained rescue swimmer, was alerted that a surfer had been caught in a rip current and heroically dove into the water to help pull the individual to shore; and

WHEREAS, on August 31, 2021, Jimmy Buriak was conducting routine flight operations from the USS *Abraham Lincoln* when his Sikorsky MH-60S helicopter crashed off the coast of California; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Buriak served the nation with integrity and dedication, and his tragic loss is a reminder of the dangers faced by men and women in uniform at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Buriak will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Megan; his son, Caulder; his parents, Jim and Carol; his sister, Laura, and her family; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Naval Air Crewman 2nd Class James P. Buriak, USN; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Naval Air Crewman 2nd Class James P. Buriak, USN, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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