

# 1999 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 860

Offered February 16, 1999

*Commending Tom McKnight.*

Patrons—Jackson, Abbitt, Almand, Armstrong, Baskerville, Behm, Bennett, Brink, Clement, Cranwell, Croshaw, Day, DeBoer, Deeds, Dickinson, Grayson, Hull, Joannou, Johnson, Melvin, Moran, Murphy, Phillips, Plum, Puller, Robinson, Shuler, Stump, Tate, Thomas, Van Yahres, Williams and Woodrum; Senators: Marye, Puckett and Reynolds

WHEREAS, Tom McKnight of Galax, one of the nation's finest amateur golfers, advanced to the finals of the 1998 U.S. Amateur Championship at Oak Hill Country Club in Rochester, New York; and

WHEREAS, a 1976 graduate of the University of Virginia, Tom McKnight regained his amateur status in 1983 and has since become one of the most feared competitors in amateur golf; and

WHEREAS, Tom McKnight has won three Virginia State Amateur titles, in 1984, 1985, and 1989; three Eastern Amateur Championships, in 1993, 1995, and 1997; two Virginia Mid-Amateur championships, in 1985 and 1996; and a State Open title in 1985; and

WHEREAS, perennially ranked among the top 10 amateurs in the country, Tom McKnight qualified for the match play segment of the U.S. Amateur by shooting 70-71-141 in stroke play; and

WHEREAS, Tom McKnight then surprised the field by winning five consecutive matches, including a semifinal victory over Spain's young sensation, Sergio Garcia, who was the world's top-ranked amateur, the reigning British Amateur champion, and the winner of 32 consecutive match play events; and

WHEREAS, Tom McKnight's outstanding showing in the U.S. Amateur has already reaped rewards, including an invitation to play in the 1999 Masters tournament in Augusta, Georgia, and selection to the United States Golf Association's World Amateur Team Championship squad, which represented the U.S. in Chile in November; and

WHEREAS, currently ranked fifth in the country in the Golfweek/Titleist rankings, Tom McKnight has clearly come into his own as a world-class amateur golfer; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Tom McKnight on his extraordinary performance at the 1998 U.S. Amateur Championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Tom McKnight as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

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