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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 115

Offered January 21, 2016

*Celebrating the life of Paul C. Reber.*

Patrons—Stuart; Delegate: Howell

WHEREAS, Paul C. Reber of Kinsale, a deeply respected educator and historian who dedicated much of his life to preserving the history and heritage of the Commonwealth, passed on July 23, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a native of Pennsylvania, Paul Reber took an interest in history at a young age, serving in the fife and drum corps in his hometown; he gained an appreciation for the rich history of Pennsylvania's numerous ethnic communities on tours with his grandfather; and

WHEREAS, driven by his passion for lifelong learning, Paul Reber earned a bachelor's degree from Gettysburg College, a master's degree from George Mason University, and a doctorate from the University of Maryland, College Park; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his 25-year career, Paul Reber worked to instill his passion for the nation's heritage in others; he served as an adjunct professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and held leadership positions with Old Salem, Inc., the Decatur House, Mount Vernon, the White House Endowment Fund, and Great Camp Sagamore; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Paul Reber became the director of Stratford Hall, the home of the Lees of Virginia and the birthplace of Robert E. Lee; he helped the historic site thrive by promoting its unique features, as well as the region's natural beauty, opportunities for hiking and cycling, and local fine dining and accommodations; and

WHEREAS, under Paul Reber's leadership, Stratford Hall completed restoration of the great house and established the Re(discover) Stratford and N-Compass tours programs, both of which increased visitation; and

WHEREAS, a respected authority throughout the Commonwealth, Paul Reber served as vice chair of the Virginia Tourism Corporation and president of the Northern Neck Tourism Commission; and

WHEREAS, Paul Reber enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community at the historic Yeocomico Episcopal Church; he lived at Steamboat Hill in Kinsale, a lovingly restored two-story, three-bay single pile "I" house that contained his treasured collection of arts and artifacts of German settlers to southeastern Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Paul Reber will be fondly remembered and deeply missed by his wife, Shannon; son, Alexander; father, Richard; and numerous other family members, friends, and colleagues; 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 Paul C. Reber, an admired educator and historian in the Kinsale community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Paul C. Reber as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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