

2017 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 273

Celebrating the life of William Harrison Bledsoe.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 13, 2017

WHEREAS, William Harrison Bledsoe of Norton, a dedicated advocate for the coal industry who served the Commonwealth as a member of the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, died on April 5, 2016; and

WHEREAS, a native of Wise County, William "Bill" Harrison Bledsoe honorably served his country during the Vietnam War as a member of the United States Army; upon returning home to the Commonwealth, he began a long, fulfilling career with the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME); and

WHEREAS, after his well-earned retirement from DMME, Bill Bledsoe continued to work with state government, the mining industry, and the citizens of the Commonwealth to balance the need for reliable energy and economic stability with environmental concerns as executive director of the Virginia Mining Association; and

WHEREAS, known for his honesty, integrity, and loyalty, Bill Bledsoe was proud to represent the hardworking coal miners in the Commonwealth and served as a trusted mentor to countless men and women throughout the industry; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by a son, Jake, Bill Bledsoe will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his loving wife of 48 years, Loretta; his children, Karen and Greg, and their families; his mother, Evelyn; and numerous other family members, friends, and colleagues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of William Harrison Bledsoe, a highly respected advocate for coal miners and the mining industry in the Commonwealth; 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 William Harrison Bledsoe as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

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