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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 149

Offered February 16, 2026

*Celebrating the life of Vernon Rea Jones.*

Patron—Scott, P.A.

WHEREAS, Vernon Rea Jones, a tireless public servant who supported efficient and effective local government, promoted economic development, and fostered a strong sense of community in Orange County, died on January 17, 2025; and

WHEREAS, a native of Orange County, Vernon Jones graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and served the nation as a member of the United States Army; he ultimately rose to the rank of brigadier general in the Virginia National Guard and continued to support active duty service members and veterans through various roles in the Virginia Department of Military Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Vernon Jones was deeply dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in Orange County as a trusted local leader who was respected for his patience, kindness, personal integrity, and visionary leadership; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his long and distinguished career in local government, Vernon Jones served as a member and chair of the Orange County Board of Supervisors, member and chair of the Orange County Planning Commission, member of the Rapidan Service Authority, and member of the Orange County Economic Development Authority; and

WHEREAS, Vernon Jones fostered economic development and job creation by supporting the establishment of Lee Industrial Park, hiring Orange County's first economic development director, and attracting major employers to the area; and

WHEREAS, among his many achievements, Vernon Jones also oversaw enhancements to local infrastructure which benefited all Orange County residents, and he was a trusted mentor to countless other local government officials; and

WHEREAS, Vernon Jones enjoyed fellowship and worship with the congregation of North Pamunkey Baptist Church, where he served as a trustee and deacon; and

WHEREAS, Vernon Jones will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Margaret; his daughters, Susie, Debbie, and Vicky, and their families; his stepdaughters, Lisa and Loretta, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Vernon Rea Jones, a pillar of the community in Orange County; 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 Vernon Rea Jones as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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