

2026 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 192

*Celebrating the life of Bill Franklin Vehorn.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 9, 2026  
Agreed to by the Senate, March 11, 2026

WHEREAS, Bill Franklin Vehorn was born on September 19, 1965, at Saigon Adventist Hospital in Saigon, South Vietnam, while his father, Franklin Esby Vehorn, was serving in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War, beginning a life that would be marked by independence, curiosity, and quiet strength; and

WHEREAS, Bill Vehorn spent portions of his childhood in Virginia Beach before later growing up in North Carolina, where he graduated from Grimsley High School in Greensboro and began shaping the thoughtful and independent spirit that would define him; and

WHEREAS, after high school, Bill Vehorn served honorably in the United States Army during the Cold War, including service in West Germany, and was later determined to be a 100 percent service-connected disabled veteran, carrying the enduring legacy of his service with dignity; and

WHEREAS, following his military service, Bill Vehorn attended North Carolina State University before relocating to California, where he built a life on his own terms and founded a small clothing business, creating and selling handmade tie-dye apparel at fairs and festivals throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Bill Vehorn chose to live simply, placing little value on material possessions and great value on freedom, learning, and lived experience, believing that what truly mattered in life could be carried lightly; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong learner, Bill Vehorn was deeply reflective about life and drawn to philosophy, religion, and ideas from many traditions, seeking understanding rather than certainty and wisdom rather than convention; and

WHEREAS, known for his patience, humor, and generous heart, Bill Vehorn showed love not through grand gestures but through steady action, fixing what was broken, carrying what needed carrying, and quietly helping wherever he was needed; and

WHEREAS, shaped by his experiences and guided by compassion, Bill Vehorn believed deeply in the dignity of every person and found meaning in life's simplest moments; and

WHEREAS, Bill Vehorn loved life not for what it offered materially, but for what it revealed in small, human moments, understanding that this is where its true value resides; and

WHEREAS, Bill Vehorn passed away on January 28, 2026, in Sacramento, California, leaving behind a legacy defined not by what he accumulated, but by how he lived, how he loved, and how he showed up for others; and

WHEREAS, Bill Vehorn will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Heather; his mother, Esther; his brothers, Andrew and Steven; and his nieces and nephews, Sam, Kip, Mary-Catherine, and Charleston Paige; 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 Bill Franklin Vehorn, a highly admired member of his community, who lived his life with purpose and heart; 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 Bill Franklin Vehorn as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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