

SENATE RESOLUTION 30

(By Senators Queen, Morris, and Jeffries)

[Introduced March 13, 2025]

1 Recognizing the 80th anniversary of the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation.

2 Whereas, In 1944 the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation was established by
3 Michael Late Benedum, born and raised in Bridgeport, WV, and his wife, Sarah Lantz Benedum
4 born and raised in Blacksville, WV; and

5 Whereas, The Foundation was named for the couple's son, Claude Worthington
6 Benedum, who died at the age of 20 from the 1918 flu epidemic while working for the United States
7 Army; and

8 Whereas, The Foundation is the largest philanthropic foundation contributing primarily to
9 West Virginia organizations and was established for the express purpose of grantmaking for
10 worthy causes and events focused on West Virginia and Pittsburgh, the native and adopted
11 homes of Mr. & Mrs. Benedum; and

12 Whereas, Through its leadership and staff, the Foundation has successfully carried out this
13 mission for 80 years; and

14 Whereas, The Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation has focused its efforts on the
15 three noteworthy program areas to include Community & Economic Development, Education, and
16 Health; and

17 Whereas, Since 2001, the Foundation has expanded its mission to include funding for
18 Entrepreneurship as a Strategic Initiative; and

19 Whereas, The Foundation has invested millions of dollars in funding in West Virginia for
20 rural economic development and entrepreneurship; and

1 Whereas, The Foundation was instrumental in the establishment and advancement of the
2 West Virginia Entrepreneurship Ecosystem through substantial investment and professional
3 support; and

4 Whereas, The Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation continues to play a critical
5 leadership role in the development of entrepreneurship and economic development throughout
6 West Virginia; therefore, be it

7 *Resolved by the Senate:*

8 That the West Virginia State Senate recognizes the tremendous impact that the Claude
9 Worthington Benedum Foundation has had throughout West Virginia with the sincere hope that
10 the Foundation continues its mission and good works throughout West Virginia; and, be it

11 *Further Resolved,* That the mission of the Foundation has been instrumental in community
12 and economic development since its inception in 1944, by the late Michael and Sarah Benedum;
13 and, be it

14 *Further Resolved,* That the Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to
15 the appropriate representative of the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation.