



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
**HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
RICHMOND

**WILLIAM J. HOWELL**  
SPEAKER

TWENTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:  
RULES (CHAIRMAN)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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## **Statement of Speaker William J. Howell**

-- on Delegate Bill Cleaveland's Decision Not to Seek Re-election --

**RICHMOND, VA** – Virginia House of Delegates Speaker William J. Howell (R-Stafford) today commented on the announcement by Delegate William H. “Bill” Cleaveland (R-Boutetourt) that he has decided not to seek re-election to the Virginia House of Delegates for a second term in November 2011:

“Bill Cleaveland is a great asset to his district and to our caucus. He is a sharp, principled and fair leader who I am sure we will hear more from in the future. My colleagues in the House of Delegates and I will miss him and wish him all the best as he attends to his duties as a husband, father and business-owner.”

“Bill has ably represented Boutetourt County, Roanoke County and part of Roanoke City for the last two years. His talents and experiences with the practice of law led to his appointment on the Courts of Justice Committee, as well as the Militia, Police & Public Safety and Transportation Committees. Bill pursued issues important to the 17<sup>th</sup> District, notably reforming the “Labor Day law” for local school districts. He also pursued broad, law and order reforms in the General Assembly, including the synthetic marijuana ban, advocating for the Castle Doctrine and various driver safety measures.”

“Like so many civic-minded men, Bill is a selfless man and a community servant, and I know this decision was very difficult for him. I hope that he will enjoy spending more time with his wife, Deborah, and family. I commend Bill, and thank him for his distinguished service. I wish him happiness at home and continued success in all his endeavors.”