SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 31

Celebrating the life of Leonard R. Strelitz.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 27, 2000 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 4, 2000

WHEREAS, Leonard R. Strelitz, a prominent Tidewater businessman and philanthropist who was recognized worldwide for his humanitarian efforts on behalf of the State of Israel, died on May 25, 1999; and

WHEREAS, the chairman of Haynes, one of Virginia's largest furniture companies, Leonard Strelitz was widely admired for his lifelong devotion to Jewish causes and to the Tidewater community; and

WHEREAS, among the many organizations that were the beneficiaries of Leonard Strelitz' commitment to community service were the Eastern Virginia Medical School, the Jewish Community Center, the Virginia Beach Arts Center, the Old Dominion Educational Foundation, and Norfolk State University; and

WHEREAS, in 1971 Leonard Strelitz was honored with the Annual Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews; and

WHEREAS, Leonard Strelitz served on the executive committee of the United Jewish Appeal from 1971 to 1977 and was national chairman of the organization in 1977-78; and

WHEREAS, in 1996 Leonard Strelitz, along with his wife, Joyce, were recipients of the Thomas L. Hofheimer Humanitarian Award, presented by the Jewish Community Center of Tidewater; and

WHEREAS, the Diabetes Institutes at Eastern Virginia Medical School, established in 1987, received special attention from Leonard Strelitz, and, in 1998, the board of visitors of the Medical College of Hampton Roads voted unanimously to create the Leonard R. Strelitz Diabetes Institutes; and

WHEREAS, Leonard Strelitz' influence was felt worldwide, through his humanitarian activities on behalf of Israel and the United Jewish Appeal, but he never lost touch with his foundations, his family, his faith, and his community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the passing of an uncommonly generous and compassionate Virginian, Leonard R. Strelitz; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Leonard R. Strelitz as an expression of the high regard in which his memory is held by the members of the General Assembly and the citizens of Virginia.