

2004 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 309

Celebrating the life of Chief Tecumseh Deerfoot Cook.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 30, 2004

Agreed to by the Senate, February 5, 2004

WHEREAS, Chief Tecumseh Deerfoot Cook, for more than 40 years chief of the Pamunkey Indians and a well-known and widely respected Indian leader, died on April 13, 2003, at the age of 103; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of the Pamunkey reservation in King William County, Chief Cook led the Pamunkey from 1942 to 1984 and thereafter acted as the tribe's unofficial ambassador; and

WHEREAS, until 2000 Chief Cook represented the Pamunkey tribe at the annual tribute to Virginia's Governor, a tradition dating from 1646; and

WHEREAS, the Pamunkey expanded their shad hatchery and secured federal grants to build the Pamunkey Indian Museum and Community Center on their reservation during Chief Cook's tenure as leader of the tribe; and

WHEREAS, Chief Cook was a noted outdoorsman, working as a hunting guide for many years, fishing, trapping, and participating in the tribe's annual shad fishing, which provided eggs for the tribe's shad hatchery; and

WHEREAS, for more than 60 years, Chief Cook served as deacon of the Pamunkey Indian Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, a leader who served his tribe with great dedication and effectiveness for more than four decades, Chief Cook leaves an enduring legacy of service to the Pamunkey Indians and the Indian community in the Commonwealth; 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 an outstanding Indian leader, Chief Tecumseh Deerfoot Cook; 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 Chief Tecumseh Deerfoot Cook as an expression of the respect in which his memory is held by the members of the General Assembly.

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