HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 256

Celebrating the life of Joseph A. Ellis, Sr.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 10, 2006 Agreed to by the Senate, February 16, 2006

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Ellis, Sr., an admired educator and revered coach for the Surry County Public School System for 23 years, died May 14, 2005; and

WHEREAS, throughout his extraordinary life, Coach Joseph Ellis was an inspiration to the community and his players, and his courageous and remarkable efforts in 2005 when he led the Surry County High School boys' basketball team to a triumphant state championship, while suffering inoperable colon cancer, was uplifting to all he encountered; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Ellis, the father of three children, was well-known in the Surry County community for his dedication to youth and for his commitment as a coach and volunteer coordinator for

the Area 21 Special Olympics; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Ellis was a widely respected referee, a member of the USSA Officials Association, and a familiar figure at high school and community sports events across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Ellis will be fondly remembered for his immense gifts as a teacher, referee, coach, mentor, and father and will be missed by his beloved family, his players, his numerous friends and admirers, and the citizens of the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly note with profound sadness the passing of an outstanding public servant and fine Virginian, Joseph A. Ellis, Sr.; 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 Joseph A. Ellis, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.