

# 2006 SPECIAL SESSION I

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5005

Offered March 27, 2006

*Celebrating the life of Alvin Barnett Fink.*

Patrons—Fralin, Griffith and Ware, O.; Senators: Bell and Edwards

WHEREAS, Alvin Barnett Fink of Roanoke, respected citizen and former CEO of Fink's Jewelers, died on March 20, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Alvin Fink was born in Selma, Alabama, moved with his family to Roanoke in 1928, attended Jefferson High School, and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Alvin Fink served his country as a medic during World War II with the United States Third Army under the command of General Patton; and

WHEREAS, in 1969 Alvin Fink became the president of Fink's Jewelers, which was established by his father, Nathan Fink, in a storefront on Campbell Avenue in 1930; and

WHEREAS, under Alvin Fink's leadership, the family business continued to flourish and evolved into a dynamic 15-retail-store chain in Virginia and North Carolina with locations in Lynchburg, Richmond, Charlotte, and Durham; and

WHEREAS, a visionary leader, Alvin Fink was a knowledgeable diamond merchant and an adventuresome entrepreneur who traveled the world in search of the perfect gemstone; and

WHEREAS, the Fink's corporate headquarters was located in downtown Roanoke until 2004, when new offices were completed and opened on Electric Road in Roanoke County; and

WHEREAS, Alvin Fink served as CEO of Fink's Jewelers and president of Jewelers of America; and

WHEREAS, a lifetime honorary director of the Virginia Retail Jewelers Association, Alvin Fink also served on numerous other civic and professional boards, including the Mountain Trust Bank, the Roanoke Merchants Association, the Roanoke Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Better Business Bureau, the American Cancer Society, the Roanoke Symphony Society, the YMCA, Junior Achievement, and Temple Emanuel; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to improving the quality of life of all of his neighbors, Alvin Fink was the former director of Downtown Roanoke; and

WHEREAS, Alvin Fink will be fondly remembered for his professionalism and ardent love of his craft and will be missed by his family, his numerous friends and admirers, and the citizens of the City of Roanoke; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of a fine Virginia gentleman, Alvin Barnett Fink; 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 Alvin Barnett Fink as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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