

# 2006 SPECIAL SESSION I

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5170

Offered September 27, 2006

*Commending Sam Savia.*

Patrons—Shannon; Senator: Devolites Davis

WHEREAS, Sam Savia is recognized as the Vienna-Tyson's Regional Chamber of Commerce 2006 Citizen of the Year; and

WHEREAS, a revered, lifelong resident of Vienna, Sam Savia, age 79, has been a committed and hard-working member of the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department for 65 years; and

WHEREAS, Sam Savia grew up in a house just down the street from the original fire station and began to work in his father's barber shop, located behind the family home, when his older brother was drafted; and

WHEREAS, in 1941 Sam Savia and three other boys joined the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department as 15-year-olds, because the station lowered the age limit when most of the town's young men were called to serve in World War II; and

WHEREAS, by the time he graduated from high school and enlisted in the Army Air Corps himself, Sam Savia had served as the station's assistant secretary and treasurer; and

WHEREAS, Sam Savia was a veteran firefighter of the original Vienna Volunteer Fire Department on Church Street when the present-day station was built in 1958, and when the fire station was renovated in 2005, he made himself available to advise contractors on the building's original construction and purpose; and

WHEREAS, Sam Savia served as president of the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department from 1966 to 1967 and again from 1981 to 1985, as well as in numerous other leadership positions over the years, and was inducted into the Virginia State Firefighters Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, in the early years of the station, the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department participated in the Old Dominion Baseball League, and Sam Savia was instrumental in the construction of Waters Field; and

WHEREAS, after the fire department stopped sponsoring baseball, the Vienna Host Lions Club called upon Sam Savia to organize Little League Baseball in 1954, and he masterfully set up the program, coached teams, and with the help of his longtime employer, C&P Telephone, helped construct the necessary fields; and

WHEREAS, the Jessup-Savia Field at Nottoway Park is named in part after Sam Savia for his tremendous contributions to young people and to Vienna Little League Baseball; and

WHEREAS, never too busy to serve his community and his neighbors, Sam Savia has been recognized for his service to numerous civic organizations, as president of the Vienna Lions Club, as recipient of Bell Atlantic's Outstanding Service Award, and as an outstanding contributor to the Vienna Centennial Coordinating Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Vienna-Tyson's Regional Chamber of Commerce will also honor Sam Savia as the Citizen of the Year in its 2006 Halloween Parade, one of the community's most popular events; and

WHEREAS, Sam Savia said he shares the award with his wife, Gertrude, and daughter, Lynn Perkins, because of their continued support in all of his endeavors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Sam Savia as the Vienna-Tyson's Regional Chamber of Commerce 2006 Citizen of the Year; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sam Savia as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for his outstanding service to the citizens of the Vienna community.

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