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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 725 Offered January 10, 2007 Prefiled January 10, 2007

Designating April 29, in 2007 and in each succeeding year, as Dale Earnhardt Day in Virginia.

Patrons—Marshall, D.W., Abbitt, Armstrong, Carrico, Cosgrove, Dudley, Griffith, Howell, W.J., Hurt, Ingram, Joannou, Johnson, Jones, D.C., Jones, S.C., Kilgore, Lingamfelter, Miller, P.J., Moran, Nixon, Nutter, O'Bannon, Saxman, Spruill, Wardrup, Ware, R.L. and Wright

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) legend Dale Earnhardt was born on April 29, 1951, in Kannapolis, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, an all-time favorite with race car fans, Dale Earnhardt ran 162 Winston Cup races and 108 Busch Series races in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Dale Earnhardt won many stock car races at all levels throughout the United States, including 21 Winston Cup and two Busch Series wins in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, known as "The Intimidator," Dale Earnhardt brought joy and motivation to his many fans throughout the world through his phenomenal accomplishments as a Winston Cup champion; and

WHEREAS, during his phenomenal career, Dale Earnhardt amassed 76 Winston Cup victories, seven Winston Cup Championships, numerous International Race of Champions (IROC) Championships, and 34 Daytona International Speedway victories; and

WHEREAS, Dale Earnhardt was celebrated for his success and twice named the prestigious American Driver of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Dale Earnhardt was not only an extraordinary sportsman and citizen, but also an exceptional man who inspired young people throughout the world with his indomitable character and determination; and

WHEREAS, on February 18, 2001, Dale Earnhardt's death in a crash during the final lap of the Daytona 500 pierced the heart of the racing world and the nation; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to pay tribute to the life of Dale Earnhardt, a NASCAR legend and extraordinary American, who meant so much to Virginians and all Americans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate April 29, in 2007 and in each succeeding year, as Dale Earnhardt Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the General Assembly encourage the citizens of the Commonwealth to remember Dale Earnhardt on the occasion of his birthday on April 29th for his passion for racing, his devotion to his family and fans, and his countless contributions to the racing industry in Virginia and throughout the United States; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.