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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 779

Offered January 19, 2007

*Celebrating the life of Derrick Lamont McFarland.*

Patrons—Nutter, Abbitt, Albo, Alexander, Amundson, Armstrong, Athey, BaCote, Barlow, Bell, Bowling, Bulova, Byron, Callahan, Caputo, Carrico, Cline, Cole, Cosgrove, Cox, Crockett-Stark, Dance, Dudley, Ebbin, Eisenberg, Englin, Fralin, Gear, Griffith, Hall, Hamilton, Hargrove, Howell, A.T., Hugo, Hull, Hurt, Iaquinto, Janis, Joannou, Jones, D.C., Jones, S.C., Kilgore, Landes, Lewis, Lingamfelter, Lohr, Marsden, Marshall, D.W., Marshall, R.G., May, McClellan, McEachin, McQuigg, Melvin, Miller, J.H., Miller, P.J., Morgan, Nixon, O'Bannon, Oder, Orrock, Phillips, Plum, Poisson, Purkey, Rapp, Reid, Rust, Saxman, Scott, E.T., Scott, J.M., Shannon, Sherwood, Shuler, Sickles, Spruill, Suit, Tata, Toscano, Tyler, Valentine, Wardrup, Ward, Ware, O., Watts, Welch, Wittman and Wright

WHEREAS, Derrick Lamont McFarland of Christiansburg, a brave and heroic security guard and member of the Montgomery Regional Hospital family, lost his life on August 20, 2006, while coming to the aid of a law-enforcement officer; and

WHEREAS, known as one of the finest security officers in the history of the hospital, who gave his all, all of the time, Derrick McFarland was a wonderful employee and friend; and

WHEREAS, Derrick McFarland is remembered from his grade school days as a "gentle giant" for protecting a new student from bullies; he and the student went on to become lifelong friends; and

WHEREAS, Derrick McFarland was greatly admired for his ability to understand objects and to repair them and his interest in cooking was well known and his willingness to share his recipes appreciated by his many friends and co-workers; and

WHEREAS, Derrick McFarland will be fondly remembered for his pleasant demeanor and what his father, Harold McFarland, recalls as his notable "Cheshire Cat" smile, and his naturally warm disposition and sense of humor; and

WHEREAS, a devoted husband, father, and son, Derrick McFarland will be greatly missed by his wife Cindy, son Jonathan, daughter Kaneisha, and parents Harold and Rosalind, and by his numerous friends and colleagues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the passing of a gentleman and outstanding Virginian, Derrick Lamont McFarland; 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 Derrick Lamont McFarland as an expression of the high esteem in which his memory is held by the members of the General Assembly.

INTRODUCED

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