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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 290

Offered January 25, 2008

Celebrating the life of John Neff Neese.

Patrons—Gilbert and Lohr

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WHEREAS, John Neff Neese of New Market, a respected citizen, farmer, and community leader, died on September 29, 2007; and

WHEREAS, a New Market native, John Neese was born on September 10, 1923, the son of the late George Ananias Neese and Bertha Maude Neff Neese, graduated from New Market High School, and served in the United States Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1945 as a flight officer bombardier stationed in England during World War II; and

WHEREAS, after the war, John Neese returned to Virginia, married Helen Breeden on May 1, 1948, and became a lifelong farmer; and

WHEREAS, John Neese worked and supported the Dairy Herd Information Service, as well as Select Sires, Inc., for many years; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to his community and the well-being of its citizens, John Neese served on the Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors for 16 years; and

WHEREAS, John Neese gave his time and many talents to numerous civic organizations over the years, including as a longtime member and terms as chair of both Forestville-Quicksburg Ruritan Club and Shenandoah County Farm Bureau and as a member of Gideons International and New Market American Legion; and

WHEREAS, John Neese was a faithful member of Saint Martin Lutheran Church, where he was a trustee, a member of the church council, and active in the church's many missions in the community; he also served as trustee of the Zirkle Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, John Neese will be fondly remembered for his devotion to his church, his family, and farming and will be greatly missed by his devoted wife Helen; his four wonderful children, Richard, Christopher, Ruth Ann, and Frederick and their families, including seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; numerous other loving family members and friends; and the citizens of New Market; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly note with great sadness the passing of a fine civic leader and outstanding Virginian, John Neff Neese; 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 John Neff Neese as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.