

2008 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 323

Offered February 1, 2008

Commending the Graves family.

Patrons—Scott, E.T.; Senator: Houck

WHEREAS, in 2008 the Graves family will celebrate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of their forefather, Captain Thomas Graves, in Jamestown; and

WHEREAS, a pioneer, visionary, and statesman, Captain Graves came to the New World in 1608 aboard the *Mary and Margaret* and paid 25 pounds for two shares in the London Company of Virginia, which entitled him to 200 acres of land; and

WHEREAS, Captain Graves became one of two burgesses from the community of Smythe's Hundred to participate in the first representative legislative assembly that convened at Jamestown on July 30, 1619; and

WHEREAS, sometime after 1620, Captain Graves moved to the Eastern Shore, living on Old Plantation Creek, now in Northampton County, and filling a range of positions until his death around 1635, including commissioner for Accomack County, burgess for Accomack, and court justice; and

WHEREAS, descendants of Thomas Graves are spread throughout Virginia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri, Texas, and West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, to celebrate their family heritage and deepen the knowledge of their ancestry, Graves' relatives have initiated a Graves Family Weekend in 2008 where there will be oral presentations, written histories, sharing of genealogical findings, archival displays, and more; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Graves family on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of their forefather, Captain Thomas Graves, in Jamestown; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Graves family as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for the family's dedication to studying and preserving its heritage, which is so closely intertwined with the history and development of the Commonwealth.

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