

2008 SESSION

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 34

Offered March 7, 2008

Commending Kwon, Jae-Hwa.

Patron—Toscano

WHEREAS, Kwon, Jae-Hwa was born in 1937 in Pusan, South Korea, and at the young age of 24, he became the chief instructor of the Yonmu-Kwan Taekwon-Do schools; and

WHEREAS, at age 29, Kwon, Jae-Hwa was chosen to be a member of the six-man Korean Demonstration Team; the team ventured out and introduced Taekwon-Do to the western world; and

WHEREAS, Kwon, Jae-Hwa was an integral part of the founding and early development of traditional Taekwon-Do having studied directly under the very masters who united Taekwon-Do in 1955; and

WHEREAS, Kwon, Jae-Hwa's superior abilities and intangible qualities became widely known and recognized and led to the formation of the International Federation of Traditional Taekwon-Do schools throughout Europe, Cyprus, Greece, and the United States; and

WHEREAS, after many years of studying directly under Kwon, Jae-Hwa in New York City, James and Virginia Hamrick were authorized in 1992 to open the International Black Belt Center in Charlottesville; and

WHEREAS, since 1992, Kwon, Jae-Hwa has devoted much of his time, wisdom, and assistance to the International Black Belt Center of Virginia ensuring its success and reputation for quality students of traditional Taekwon-Do; and

WHEREAS, Kwon, Jae-Hwa continues to support and devote his time and wisdom to the International Black Belt Center of Virginia's current school leader, John J. Oliver, and the center's many black belts, all of whom have been personally tested by Kwon, Jae-Hwa; and

WHEREAS, many children and adults in Virginia have benefited from Kwon, Jae-Hwa's endless dedication and selfless service in advancing the basic tenants of Taekwon-Do: strong mind, strong body, nonaggression, courtesy, humility, self-control and service to humanity; and

WHEREAS, given the many successes of the International Black Belt Center of Virginia, it is evident that Kwon, Jae-Hwa has touched the lives of many Virginians who have passed through the doors of the International Black Belt Center and who study under one of the truly great martial arts masters of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Kwon, Jae-Hwa hereby be commended for his selfless service and dedication to the International Black Belt Center of Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Kwon, Jae-Hwa as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration and esteem for his contributions to the Commonwealth.

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