

10102821D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 7

Offered January 22, 2010

Celebrating the life of Christopher J. Klicka.

Patrons—Lingamfelter, Abbitt, Abbott, Albo, Alexander, Anderson, Armstrong, Athey, BaCote, Barlow, Bell, Richard P., Bell, Robert B., Brink, Bulova, Byron, Carr, Carrico, Cline, Cole, Comstock, Cosgrove, Cox, J.A., Cox, M.K., Crockett-Stark, Edmunds, Gear, Greason, Griffith, Hope, Howell, A.T., Hugo, Iaquinto, Ingram, James, Janis, Joannou, Johnson, Jones, Keam, Kilgore, Knight, Landes, Lewis, Lohr, Marshall, R.G., May, McClellan, McQuinn, Merricks, Miller, J.H., Morefield, Morgan, Morrissey, Nixon, Oder, Phillips, Pogge, Poindexter, Purkey, Putney, Rust, Scott, E.T., Scott, J.M., Sherwood, Sickles, Spruill, Stolle, Surovell, Tata, Toscano, Tyler, Ward, Ware, O., Ware, R.L. and Watts;

WHEREAS, Christopher J. Klicka, senior attorney and director of state and international relations for the Home School Legal Defense Association, died on October 12, 2009, after a 15-year battle with multiple sclerosis; and

WHEREAS, Christopher J. "Chris" Klicka was born on April 2, 1961, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the son of George and Ardath Klicka; graduated from Grove City College in Pennsylvania; and earned a law degree from O.W. Coburn School of Law in Tulsa, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, in 1985 Chris Klicka joined the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA), a nonprofit established to defend and advance the constitutional right of parents to direct the education of their children and to protect family freedoms; and

WHEREAS, a passionate advocate for families and children, Chris Klicka diligently researched the laws of all 50 states pertaining to the right of parents to home-school their children; and

WHEREAS, Chris Klicka was a prolific writer and an expert in family and domestic law, and his authoritative work, "Home Schooling in the United States: A Legal Analysis," is updated regularly and is the leading reference in the country on the states' home-schooling statutes; and

WHEREAS, Chris Klicka traveled around the nation fighting in the courts, state legislatures, and before Congress to establish laws giving families the right to teach their children at home; and

WHEREAS, Chris Klicka worked tirelessly to level the playing field for the acceptance of home-schooled students in the military and universities, as well as for them to obtain educational grants, student loans, and veterans and Social Security benefits; and

WHEREAS, an inspiration to all who knew him, Chris Klicka leaves behind a legacy of hope and caring that will be carried on by his friends and colleagues at HSLDA; and

WHEREAS, Chris Klicka will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his devoted wife, Tracy, and their seven children; other loving family members; numerous admirers; and the thousands of families and young people he helped throughout his lifetime; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates mourn the passing of a fine public servant and outstanding Virginian, Christopher J. Klicka; 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 Christopher J. Klicka as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

HR7