SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 154

Celebrating the life of Edward Delk.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 4, 2010 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 12, 2010

WHEREAS, Edward Delk, a noted attorney, educator, and community leader from Chesapeake, died on December 31, 2009; and

WHEREAS, born on September 24, 1930, in the Douglas Park section of Norfolk, Edward Delk was the son of Marcus and Cora Chambers Delk, and the eldest of seven brothers and sisters; and

WHEREAS, a hardworking student, Edward Delk graduated from Booker T. Washington High School, received a bachelor's degree from Hampton Institute (now Hampton University), and a law degree from the Howard University School of Law; and

WHEREAS, Edward Delk proudly served his country in the United States Army and received an honorable discharge; and

WHEREAS, Edward Delk began his career at the Department of Justice (Immigration and Naturalization) before becoming engaged in the private practice of law in Norfolk from 1965 to 1987; a dedicated attorney, Edward Delk served his clients with great wisdom and industriousness; and

WHEREAS, Edward Delk worked as a real estate consultant and developer from 1987 to 1992, before turning to education; and

WHEREAS, a natural coach and mentor and exemplary educator, Edward Delk served as a law professor at Commonwealth College (now Bryant & Stratton College) from 1992 to 2008, and as a professor at Strayer University from 2006 until his passing; and

WHEREAS, Edward Delk also served as chairman of the Community Oversight Committee appointed by the Norfolk School Board (charged with preventing racial discrimination in the allocation of human and physical resources in Norfolk Public Schools); counsel for Williams Village, a 90-unit apartment complex for low and moderate income families in Virginia Beach; and counsel for the COGIC Memorial Homes for the Elderly, Inc., a 150-unit high rise for the elderly in Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, Edward Delk generously gave of his time and talents in the community as a member of the Norfolk Charter Advisory Study Commission; vice president of the Old Dominion Bar Association; executive director of the Urban Coalition of Norfolk; and director, secretary, and general counsel of Atlantic National Bank; and

WHEREAS, Edward Delk lived his faith through his actions and as a longtime member of Shiloh Baptist Church, where he taught the Adult Sunday School class and was actively involved in the church's missions in the community; and

WHEREAS, Edward Delk leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife, Shirley C. Delk; their two sons, Edward and Eric, and their families; and numerous other family members, friends, and admirers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of a fine attorney and community citizen, Edward Delk; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Edward Delk as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.