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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 112

Offered January 17, 2012

Celebrating the life of Francis Snead Ferguson.

Patrons—Ruff and Puckett; Delegates: Edmunds, Johnson, Kilgore, Marshall, D.W., Merricks, Scott, J.M. and Wilt

WHEREAS, Francis Snead Ferguson, a brilliant attorney who served the Commonwealth with great devotion for more than three decades, died on November 24, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Francis "Frank" Ferguson received a bachelor's degree from The College of William and Mary and evidenced the firm grasp of the intricacies of the law that would mark his career while a student at the College's Marshall-Wythe School of Law; and

WHEREAS, a former Chief Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Suffolk, Frank Ferguson initially joined the Attorney General's office in 1984 as an attorney in the Criminal Litigation Section; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, Frank Ferguson moved to the legislative branch of state government as manager of the Business and Jurisprudence section of the Division of Legislative Services, where he worked closely with members of the General Assembly and oversaw drafting of legislation and staffing of legislative committees; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, Frank Ferguson rejoined the Attorney General's office, providing thoughtful legal counsel to the Attorneys General of Virginia and eventually becoming chief deputy attorney general; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ferguson served the Commonwealth in other capacities, including as counsel to the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission and as counsel, director of legislative affairs, and interim director of the Virginia Lottery; and

WHEREAS, a valued member of the Virginia Code Commission, Frank Ferguson shared his insight as the Commission deliberated issues related to the Code of Virginia and the Virginia Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, a true gentleman, Frank Ferguson drew strength from his affiliation with the Richmond Catholic Diocese and served as an exemplary role model to youth through his involvement in Boy Scout Troop 800; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ferguson's keen legal intellect and vast wealth of knowledge about state government at its highest levels made him a trusted advisor to many throughout the course of his outstanding career in public service; and

WHEREAS, a devoted family man, Frank Ferguson will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Susan; children, Emily and Samuel; many other family members and friends; and former colleagues and state officials across the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of a distinguished attorney and admired public servant, Francis Snead Ferguson; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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