## **SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29**

Celebrating the life of Francis U. Askew.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 19, 2012 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 27, 2012

WHEREAS, Francis U. Askew, a loving husband and a devoted father who founded and served as pastor of Freedom Church of God in Christ in Norfolk, went home to be with the Lord on October 24, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Francis Askew, a man of devout faith, shepherded his congregation at Freedom COGIC for 31 years, mentoring them and encouraging them; the theme that guided his life and ministry, which he professed to his family and to his followers, was "Love Never Faileth"; and

WHEREAS, Francis Askew, a beloved elder in the church, nurtured members of Freedom COGIC in their faith throughout his three decades of leadership at the house of worship he started in Norfolk, giving selflessly of his time and talents to congregants and their families; and

WHEREAS, the son of Clarence and Rosa Askew, Francis was a child of Norfolk, growing up alongside seven siblings, five of whom survive him; and

WHEREAS, Francis Askew is dearly cherished and remembered by his wife of 49 years, Barbara, their five daughters, LaBarbara, Tina, Karen, Rosalyn, and Robin, and their son, Michael, together with many other family members and friends; 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 devoted husband and father and a shepherd of his flock, Francis U. Askew; and, be it

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