

2013 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 606

Offered January 9, 2013

Prefiled January 6, 2013

Celebrating the life of William B. Poff.

Patron—Head

WHEREAS, William B. Poff, a distinguished trial attorney who made many contributions to the practice of law in Southwest Virginia and the Commonwealth, died on September 5, 2012; and

WHEREAS, an outstanding student, William "Bill" Poff earned a bachelor's degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and a law degree from Washington and Lee University School of Law; and

WHEREAS, Bill Poff then joined the United States Army and taught at the Judge Advocate General School in Charlottesville before beginning his more than 50-year affiliation with the law firm of Woods Rogers in Roanoke in 1959; and

WHEREAS, a brilliant attorney known for his tremendous work ethic, Bill Poff served his clients with great professionalism, arguing and winning cases before the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, the Supreme Court of Virginia, and the Supreme Court of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Bill Poff loved the law and its intellectual rigors and made many contributions to his profession as a member of the board of governors of the American Bar Association, president of the Virginia State Bar, president of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, and founding member of the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys; and

WHEREAS, an excellent role model, Bill Poff mentored numerous young attorneys, sharing his insights, experiences, and legal skills with a rising generation, many of whom went on to become judges; and

WHEREAS, despite a rigorous professional schedule, Bill Poff also made many contributions to the community through his involvement in various organizations in the Roanoke Valley and as chair of the Sixth District Republican Committee and Roanoke County Republican Committee; and

WHEREAS, Bill Poff was recognized for his distinguished service with the Frank W. "Bo" Rogers, Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award from the Roanoke Bar Association, Lifetime Achievement Award from the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys, and Roger Groot Professionalism Award from the Ted Dalton American Inn of Court; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his first wife, Mag, Bill Poff will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Spring; stepchildren, Virginia, Young, Sunn, and Anne, and their families; and other family members, friends, and colleagues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of an admired attorney, William B. Poff; 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 William B. Poff as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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