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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 700

Offered January 10, 2013

*Celebrating the life of Nicholas J. Covatta, Jr.*

Patron—Lewis

WHEREAS, Nicholas J. Covatta, Jr., a consummate businessman from the Eastern Shore and a fervent supporter of the arts, died on November 25, 2012; and

WHEREAS, born in Troy, New York, Nicholas Covatta graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard University before traveling throughout the United States and the world in a variety of consulting and corporate executive positions; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Covatta built an impressive resume, holding positions as a vice president at Gulf Oil Corporation, the executive vice president at AI International Corporation, and a staff executive at General Electric; and

WHEREAS, in 1980 Nicholas Covatta purchased the Eastern Shore Nursery of Virginia near Keller, moved to the Eastern Shore, and later co-founded Atlantis Group Incorporated in Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, a man with a strong appreciation for art and architecture, Nicholas Covatta went on to restore and live at Bowman's Folly in Folly Creek, a stately old home in the American Federal style; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Covatta also became involved in theater, taking on roles in "The Nutcracker" and as Willy Loman in "Death of a Salesman"; and

WHEREAS, preceded by his reputation as both an art lover and a successful businessman, Nicholas Covatta was asked to join the Virginia Commission for the Arts in 2006, and later became chair; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Covatta also shared his experience on a number of boards, including Virginians for the Arts, the North Street Playhouse, Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital, and the Eastern Shore Community College Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Covatta remained a faithful alumnus of MIT, joining the MIT Educational Council and the McGovern Center for Brain Research; and

WHEREAS, serving as the treasurer for 10 years, Nicholas Covatta was a loyal member of Grace United Methodist Church in Parksley; and

WHEREAS, a forward-thinking man, Nicholas Covatta always worked hard to achieve the best for his family and his community; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Covatta is survived by his beloved wife, Robin Rinaca; and his daughters, Anna and Danielle; 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 astute businessman and a valued supporter of the Eastern Shore, Nicholas J. Covatta, Jr.; 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 Nicholas J. Covatta, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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