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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 702

Offered January 10, 2013

Celebrating the life of Robert W. Farmer.

Patrons—Cox, J.A., Orrock and Ransone

WHEREAS, Robert W. Farmer, a dedicated public servant who faithfully served the residents of Caroline County for 50 years, died on November 20, 2012; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Caroline High School, Robert "Bob" Farmer proudly served his country in the United States Navy as a medic before returning to Caroline County, settling into family life, and becoming immersed in business and community affairs; and

WHEREAS, for 37 years, Bob Farmer provided outstanding support and service to local residents as an agent for Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company; and

WHEREAS, in 1953 Bob Farmer worked with other community members to establish the Bowling Green Volunteer Rescue Squad and served as a charter member; and

WHEREAS, Bob Farmer served 22 years as a justice of the peace and magistrate, eight years on the Town Council of Bowling Green, and 20 years representing Bowling Green on the Caroline County Board of Supervisors, including multiple terms as chair and vice chair; and

WHEREAS, for a half century, Bob Farmer labored diligently to ensure the well-being and prosperity of his fellow residents, serving as a charter member and former board member of the Caroline County Chamber of Commerce and playing a key role in the hiring of the county's first economic director; and

WHEREAS, Bob Farmer encouraged the development of the county's first utility system in Carmel Church and participated in efforts to remodel the old Union High School into the Caroline County Community Services Center; and

WHEREAS, Bob Farmer worked to ensure adequate funding for volunteer rescue squads and fire departments, education, and beautification efforts, and also took part in efforts to complete the Bowling Green Bypass; and

WHEREAS, a 32nd degree Mason, Bob Farmer served on numerous state level boards and commissions under various governors and also took part in community affairs through membership in the Scottish Rites, as a deacon at Bowling Green Baptist Church, and past patron of the Order of the Eastern Star; and

WHEREAS, Caroline County honored Bob Farmer for his extraordinary public service by naming a mini-recreational park in his honor and commissioning a portrait of him on the occasion of his 50th anniversary of service; his portrait now resides in the Caroline County Administration Building; and

WHEREAS, today, Caroline County residents continue to reap the benefits of Bob Farmer's half century of devoted labor on their behalf; and

WHEREAS, Bob Farmer will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 65 years, Lois; daughter, Susan, and her family; and numerous other family members and friends; 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 citizen of Caroline County, Robert W. Farmer; 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 Robert W. Farmer as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.