

## 2013 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 718

Offered January 11, 2013

*Commemorating the life and legacy of Michael Wise.*

Patron—Landes

WHEREAS, Michael Wise, the pioneer, emigrated from the environs of Basel, Switzerland, and came to America in 1751 to pursue a life of liberty and happiness for himself and his family; and

WHEREAS, Michael Wise, the pioneer, with wife Barbara, and children John, Anna Barbara, Michael, Adam, Elizabeth, and Catherine, first came to Virginia in the 1770s to the Swiss-German settlement of Massanutten near present-day Luray, and then in the 1780s relocated to the newly created Rockingham County near present-day Bridgewater; and

WHEREAS, Michael Wise, the patriot, responded to George Washington's call for a Continental Army, and in 1775 became one of the first to enlist in the newly formed army, specifically, Captain Michael Rader's Company, Dunmore County, Virginia Militia; and

WHEREAS, Michael Wise, the presbyter, donated the land for the church and cemetery bearing his name, St. Michael's, near present-day Bridgewater, Virginia, formerly a German Reformed Church and currently United Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, Michael Wise, the patriarch, today has thousands of documented descendants; and

WHEREAS, the descendants of Michael Wise honored him on Sunday, October 28, 2012, with a memorial granite bench on the grounds of St. Michael's Church; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commemorate the life and legacy of a Revolutionary War patriot, Michael Wise; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Nathan H. Miller, a descendant of Michael Wise and former member of the Virginia House of Delegates and Senate, as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for Michael Wise's contributions to the Commonwealth and nation.

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