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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 433

Offered February 18, 2013

*Celebrating the life of Robert Earl Wetsel.*

Patron—Obenshain

WHEREAS, Robert Earl Wetsel, a dedicated public servant, respected businessman, and pillar of the Harrisonburg community, died on January 29, 2013; and

WHEREAS, a native of the City of Harrisonburg, Robert "Bob" Wetsel graduated from Harrisonburg High School, where he made many lifelong friends; he went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech and later served his country as a member of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Bob Wetsel believed deeply in helping others and safeguarding the community; he became a founding member of the Harrisonburg Rescue Squad and served as a member and two-year captain of Harrisonburg Fire Company No. 1; and

WHEREAS, Bob Wetsel worked at the family business, Wetsel Seed Company, for 46 years and retired in 2001 as the senior vice president; he was greatly admired for his heartfelt care and concern for his employees and their families; and

WHEREAS, an expert in the agricultural field, Bob Wetsel shared his knowledge and experience throughout the eastern and southern United States as the president of state and regional seedsmen's associations; and

WHEREAS, to strengthen and enhance the community, Bob Wetsel donated his time and talents to many civic organizations; he was particularly proud of his 30-year service as a member of the local Salvation Army Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, Bob Wetsel was a friend to almost everyone in the City of Harrisonburg; he enjoyed faith and fellowship with the community as a longtime member of First Presbyterian Church on Court Square; and

WHEREAS, a proud and devoted family man, Bob Wetsel will be greatly missed and lovingly remembered by his wife, Carolyn; children, Nanette, Melinda, Brad, and Marci, and their families; and 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 Robert Earl Wetsel, a well-known businessman, proud public servant, and beloved resident of the City of Harrisonburg; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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