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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 193

Offered January 22, 2014

Celebrating the life of David William Spanka.

Patron—Jones

WHEREAS, David William Spanka of Suffolk, a proud military veteran and forceful advocate for disabled veterans who own small businesses, died on July 4, 2013; and

WHEREAS, David "Dave" Spanka was born in Honolulu and joined the United States Navy in 1980; he became a chief petty officer in 1989 and was commissioned as a nuclear power limited duty officer in 1991; and

WHEREAS, having more than two decades of active duty service to his country, Dave Spanka had many varied assignments; he was on submarine duty during the Cold War and also served in the Gulf War and Kosovo War campaigns, receiving many awards and medals, including the Navy Commendation Medal; and

WHEREAS, after Dave Spanka retired from active duty with the rank of lieutenant commander, he earned a bachelor of science degree from Norfolk State University and subsequently entered the business world; and

WHEREAS, Dave Spanka helped start the Phoenix Group of Virginia, a service-disabled veteran-owned small business that focuses on providing consulting services to government agencies; he was senior vice president and director of business development; and

WHEREAS, Dave Spanka was a founding member of the Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) Council, serving as president since its inception; the council offers support and advice on procuring government business contracts to small businesses owned by disabled veterans; and

WHEREAS, the SDVOSB Council has established the Dave Spanka Leadership Award in his memory; the award will be presented annually to a person who has made significant and lasting contributions to service-disabled and veteran-owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, Dave Spanka will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by his wife, Catherine; his children, Shannon, Caitlyn, and Allison, and their families; and many other family members, friends, fellow service members, and business associates; 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 David William Spanka, who selflessly served his country, the Commonwealth, and his fellow veterans; 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 David William Spanka as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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