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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 351

Offered February 21, 2014

*Celebrating the life of the Honorable Frank J. Ceresi.*

Patrons—Brink, Hope, Krupicka and Lopez; Senators: Ebbin, Favola and Howell

WHEREAS, the Honorable Frank J. Ceresi, a retired judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court for the 17th Judicial District of Virginia and a respected expert in the field of sports memorabilia, died on January 14, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ceresi attended Fort Hunt High School in Alexandria and later earned a bachelor's degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1971; and

WHEREAS, after earning a law degree from the University of Richmond, Frank Ceresi practiced law in Arlington until 1987, when he was appointed judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court for the 17th Judicial District of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, with his patience, deep knowledge of the law, and devotion to helping others, Judge Ceresi presided with great fairness and wisdom until his retirement in 1997; a man of great integrity, he served the community and the Commonwealth with dedication and distinction; and

WHEREAS, after stepping down from the bench, Frank Ceresi pursued a passion for the collection and preservation of sports antiques and memorabilia; he accepted a position as the curator and executive director of collections at MCI National Sports Gallery, the country's first all-sports museum; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ceresi became a respected authority on the appraisal and acquisition of sports memorabilia, enthusiastically preserving and protecting for future generations the artifacts he often called national treasures; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Frank Ceresi co-founded FC Associates, a company specializing in museum consulting, appraisals, and legal services; Frank Ceresi also co-authored or contributed to countless books and articles, further establishing himself as an expert in the field; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, Frank Ceresi became the curator for The National Pastime Museum, a nonprofit online museum showcasing a wide range of baseball artifacts, photographs, memorabilia, and articles; he was known as a mentor and friend to many fellow collectors and enthusiasts; and

WHEREAS, Frank Ceresi will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Barbara; children, Dan, Nicole, Lane, and Austin, and their families; 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 the Honorable Frank J. Ceresi, a public servant and well-known authority on sports memorabilia; 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 the Honorable Frank J. Ceresi as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.