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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled December 19, 2013

Celebrating the life of Alphonse A. Tucker, Sr.

Patrons—Marsh; Delegate: Dance

WHEREAS, Alphonse A. Tucker, Sr., one of six children, was born on February 2, 1943, in Disputanta and departed this life on October 21, 2013, surrounded by his loving family; and

WHEREAS, Alphonse A. Tucker, Sr., graduated from J.E.J. Moore High School in Disputanta in 1961 and from the American Academy of Embalming and Funeral Service in New York in 1962; and

WHEREAS, after enjoying employment as a school bus driver, milk deliveryman, and an ambulatory service owner, Alphonse A. Tucker, Sr., found the passion of his life in funeral service and began his career in the funeral industry as an embalmer with Bland Funeral Home in Petersburg; he also worked as an embalmer with Charity Funeral Home in Charles City and the former Turner Funeral Home in Hopewell, now the Turner-Bland Funeral Home, before founding Tucker's Funeral Home in Petersburg; and

WHEREAS, Alphonse A. Tucker, Sr., was viewed by many as a blessing to and true pillar in the community as he gave tirelessly to others and went above the call of duty to ensure that each family was served with dignity and shown professional care and compassion during their bereavement; and

WHEREAS, a man of strong faith, he assisted several area churches, participating in worship services and giving freely of his talent and treasure to the body of Christ; he was a member of the Good Shepherd Baptist Church in Petersburg and held previous memberships at Loving Union Baptist Church in Disputanta and Harvest International Full Gospel Baptist Church in Petersburg, where he served as a trustee in both churches; he also was a faithful member of Kingdom Family Ministry in Petersburg; and

WHEREAS, Alphonse A. Tucker, Sr., was a member of the National Funeral Directors and Morticians Association, in which he served as district governor of District II; the Virginia Mortician Association; the Southside Funeral Directors Association, in which he served as treasurer for many years; and

Alphonse A. Tucker, Sr., held lifetime memberships in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, from which he received awards for his achievements and service to these organizations; and

WHEREAS, affectionately called "A.A.," Alphonse A. Tucker, Sr., was reverent, noble, generous, and selfless; he was an unyielding supporter of the community and provided strength, encouragement, and hope for grieving families; and

WHEREAS, Alphonse A. Tucker, Sr., will be remembered for his strong faith, professionalism, kindness, and generosity by his loving family and many colleagues 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 Alphonse A. Tucker, Sr.; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Alphonse A. Tucker, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory and selfless contributions to his community.

INTRODUCED

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