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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5184

Offered September 10, 2014

Celebrating the life of the Honorable Manley Caldwell Butler.

Patrons—Head, Austin, Bulova, Jones, LaRock, Rust, Ware and Yost

WHEREAS, the Honorable Manley Caldwell Butler of Roanoke, a dedicated public servant who represented the residents of the 57th District in the Virginia House of Delegates and the residents of Virginia's 6th District in the U.S. House of Representatives, died on July 28, 2014; and

WHEREAS, a native of Roanoke, Caldwell Butler graduated from Jefferson High School and attended what is now the University of Richmond before joining the United States Naval Reserve in 1943; he graduated from the Naval Reserve Midshipmen School at Columbia University and went on to serve as an officer for an air-sea rescue unit in Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, after his honorable discharge, Caldwell Butler returned to the University of Richmond to complete his bachelor's degree; he then earned a law degree from the University of Virginia and practiced law in Roanoke for many years, including 10 years in private practice and as a founding partner of Eggleston, Holton, Butler, and Glenn until 1972; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of further service to the Commonwealth, Caldwell Butler ran for and was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1961; as the first Republican to be elected from the City of Roanoke in 50 years, he ably represented the residents of the 57th District for nearly a decade and became the House minority leader; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, Caldwell Butler was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives representing Virginia's 6th District; serving until 1986, he offered his expertise to numerous committees and commissions, including the House Judiciary Committee, where he considered the impeachment proceedings of President Richard M. Nixon; and

WHEREAS, Caldwell Butler worked to enact several pieces of important legislation throughout his career in state and federal government service; he gained a reputation as an independent thinker who strove to better the lives of all Virginians; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from public office, Caldwell Butler returned to legal practice until his well-earned retirement in 1998; an active leader in the community, he continued to volunteer his time and wise leadership with many civic and service organizations; and

WHEREAS, Caldwell Butler earned several awards and accolades, including the 1998 MS Silver Hope Award from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and a post office in Roanoke was renamed the M. Caldwell Butler Building in his honor; and

WHEREAS, a man of great integrity, Caldwell Butler served the community, the Commonwealth, and the nation with distinction; he inspired countless aspiring public servants and community leaders through his dedication to his principles; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his wife of 64 years, June, Caldwell Butler will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his sons, Manley, Jr., Henry, James, and Marshall, and their families, and numerous other family members, friends, and colleagues on both sides of the aisle; 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 Manley Caldwell Butler, a tireless public servant and devoted community leader; 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 Manley Caldwell Butler as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.