2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5191

Celebrating the life of Michael Steven Suter.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, September 18, 2014 Agreed to by the Senate, September 18, 2014

WHEREAS, Michael Steven Suter of Virginia Beach, a distinguished former United States Naval Special Warfare operator (SEAL) officer and a beloved family man, died on July 18, 2014; and

WHEREAS, a native of Richmond, Michael "Mike" Steven Suter joined the United States Navy in 1970 and graduated from Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training with Class 81 in 1975; he was assigned to Underwater Demolition Team 12 and rose through the ranks to become a Chief Warrant Officer four in the elite Navy SEALs; and

WHEREAS, Mike Suter served with several units throughout his rewarding Navy career, including SEAL Teams One and Five, Fleet Aviation Specialized Operational Training Group, Pacific Fleet, Naval Special Warfare Unit Two in Scotland, and the Naval Special Warfare Centers in Coronado, California, and Dam Neck; and

WHEREAS, Mike Suter was one of the 85 plankowners or founding members of SEAL Team Six, one of the country's premier counterterrorism units, and he retired as a member of Naval Special Warfare Development Group in July 2000; and

WHEREAS, Mike Suter was the first Chief Warrant Officer to be commissioned in the Navy SEALs, and he set the standard by which future Warrant Officers would be measured; a dedicated mentor to countless fellow SEALS, he was admired for his leadership style, honesty, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Mike Suter will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 18 years, Kenette; children, Amber, Jessica, Annie, and Meredith, and their families; mother, Darlene Dills; and numerous other family members, friends, and fellow members of the United States Navy; 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 Michael Steven Suter, a frogman, a proud veteran, and a respected member of the Virginia Beach community; 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 Michael Steven Suter as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory. HJ5191ER