

2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5052

Offered June 23, 2014

Celebrating the life of William Frank Mezger.

Patron—Watkins

WHEREAS, William Frank Mezger, the longtime chief economist of the Virginia Employment Commission who dedicated almost 50 years of service to the Commonwealth, died on June 7, 2014; and

WHEREAS, a native of Richmond, William "Bill" Mezger grew up in Church Hill, graduated from John Marshall High School, and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, Bill Mezger began his career with the Virginia Employment Commission as an analyst; he later became chief economist of the Economic Information Services Division, where he ably served the Commonwealth for the next 37 years; and

WHEREAS, Bill Mezger was known as the voice of the Virginia Employment Commission, presenting the Commonwealth's monthly unemployment rates, analysis, and economic forecasts; he also served as the editor of *VEC Quarterly*; and

WHEREAS, admired for the breadth and depth of his economic knowledge, Bill Mezger presented data in an objective, comprehensive, and authoritative manner; he was a recognized leader in the field and a devoted mentor to many of his colleagues; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Bill Mezger was committed to the prosperity and well-being of the Commonwealth and supportive of sound economic and employment policies and practices that benefit all Virginians; he retired after giving his last monthly report on December 30, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Bill Mezger generously gave his time and talents as a four-time president of Virginia Train Collectors, and he was respected as a national authority on post-World War II Lionel trains; and

WHEREAS, Bill Mezger enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as a longtime member of First Baptist Church in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Bill Mezger will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by his wife of 46 years, Effie; daughter, Karen, and her family; and numerous other family members 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 William Frank Mezger, an outstanding servant to the Commonwealth and his fellow citizens; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of William Frank Mezger as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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