## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 653**

Celebrating the life of Nelson Greene, Sr.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 23, 2015 Agreed to by the Senate, January 29, 2015

WHEREAS, Nelson Greene, Sr., of Alexandria, a respected entrepreneur and former City Council member who devoted his life to the pursuit of civil rights and social justice in the community, died on November 13, 2014; and

WHEREAS, a native of Danville, Nelson Greene relocated to Alexandria in 1953 to open Greene Funeral Home, which has served local residents for more than 60 years; and

WHEREAS, possessed of a strong desire to help and serve others, Nelson Greene and a group of concerned citizens formed a group called the Secret Seven to represent local African American interests and advise the Alexandria City Council on the state of the community; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Nelson Greene became the second African American to serve on the Alexandria City Council; serving for three years, he used his calm and decisive leadership style to break down barriers and improve the quality of life of all Alexandria residents; and

WHEREAS, Nelson Greene received numerous awards and accolades for his leadership; in 2011, he was named as one of the Living Legends of Alexandria in recognition of his many contributions to strengthening the community; and

WHEREAS, Nelson Greene will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by numerous family members, friends, and colleagues; 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 Nelson Greene, Sr., a pillar of the Alexandria 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 Nelson Greene, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.