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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 256

Offered February 18, 2015

Celebrating the life of John George Turner.

Patron—Poindexter

WHEREAS, John George Turner, a proud veteran of World War II and an admired, hardworking member of the community, died on February 16, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a native of Henry County, John Turner joined many of the other young men of his generation in service to his country during World War II; he served in the United States Army in 1942 and was assigned to Company B of the 305th Engineer Combat Battalion, where he rose to the rank of sergeant; and

WHEREAS, known as the Blue Ridgers, John Turner and Company B earned a reputation as a courageous, hard-charging unit that helped clear the way for the allied advance at great peril; the unit conducted assault crossings to build or repair bridges, swept roads for mines and booby traps, and cleared debris and road blocks, as well as other construction duties; and

WHEREAS, John Turner participated in campaigns in Northern France, the Ardennes Forest during the famed Battle of the Bulge, the Rhineland, and Central Europe, landing on the beaches of Normandy and fighting from the Argentan to the banks of the Enns River in Austria; and

WHEREAS, after his honorable discharge in December 1945, John Turner returned to the Commonwealth and married his beloved wife, Tinie, in 1948; and

WHEREAS, earning a reputation as a hard worker who could excel at any job, John Turner was employed by local garages, then joined Stanley Furniture, where he ran a bowling machine; he also worked at Bassett Superior Lines, Bassett Table Company, and Ferrum College, before retiring from Stanley Furniture in 1986; and

WHEREAS, John Turner will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Tinie; daughter, Shirley, and her family; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of John George Turner, a respected veteran and an active member of the 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 John George Turner as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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