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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 158

Offered January 13, 2016

*Celebrating the life of the Honorable Thomas W. Moss, Jr.*

Patrons—Hester, Adams, Aird, Albo, Anderson, Austin, Bagby, Bell, John J., Bell, Richard P., Bell, Robert B., Bloxom, Boysko, Bulova, Byron, Campbell, Carr, Cline, Cole, Collins, Cox, Davis, Dudenhefer, Edmunds, Fariss, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fowler, Freitas, Garrett, Gilbert, Greason, Habeeb, Head, Helsel, Heretick, Herring, Hodges, Hope, Howell, Hugo, Ingram, James, Jones, Keam, Kilgore, Knight, Kory, Krizek, Landes, LaRock, Leftwich, LeMunyon, Levine, Lindsey, Lingamfelter, Lopez, Loupassi, Marshall, D.W., Marshall, R.G., Mason, Massie, McClellan, McQuinn, Miller, Minchew, Miyares, Morefield, Morris, Murphy, O'Bannon, O'Quinn, Orrock, Peace, Pillion, Plum, Pogge, Poindexter, Price, Ransone, Rasoul, Robinson, Rush, Sickles, Simon, Spruill, Stolle, Sullivan, Taylor, Torian, Toscano, Tyler, Villanueva, Ward, Ware, Watts, Webert, Wilt, Wright, Yancey and Yost; Senators: Alexander, Barker, Black, Carrico, Chafin, Chase, Cosgrove, Dance, Deeds, DeSteph, Dunnavant, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Garrett, Hanger, Howell, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, McDougle, McEachin, McPike, Miller, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Petersen, Reeves, Ruff, Saslaw, Stanley, Stuart, Sturtevant, Suetterlein, Surovell, Vogel, Wagner and Wexton

WHEREAS, the Honorable Thomas W. Moss, Jr., a distinguished community leader, attorney, and public servant who represented the people of the City of Norfolk in the Virginia House of Delegates as a former Speaker of the House, died on November 26, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Norfolk, Thomas Moss graduated from Granby High School and earned a bachelor's degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; he honorably served his country as a member of the United States Army during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, after returning home, Thomas Moss earned a law degree from the University of Richmond and served the community as an attorney in private practice in Norfolk for many years; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of further service to the Commonwealth, Thomas Moss ran for and was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates and served from 1966 to 2000; he became House Majority Leader, and he was elected Speaker of the House in 1991; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his career, Thomas Moss ably represented the residents of the 88th District; he enacted numerous important pieces of legislation and offered his wisdom and leadership to several committees; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from state government in 2001, Thomas Moss was elected treasurer of the City of Norfolk and served in that capacity for more than a decade; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the Norfolk community, Thomas Moss served as a past president of the Young Democratic Club of Norfolk and the Tidewater Chapter of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association and a former crusade chairman for the American Cancer Society; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Moss earned many awards and accolades for his good work, including the German Club Alumni Foundation Distinguished Achievement Award; the downtown campus of Tidewater Community College and a research building at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University are named in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Moss lived his deep and abiding faith through his actions, and he enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as a lifelong member of First Lutheran Church of Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, a man of great integrity, Thomas Moss served the Norfolk community and the Commonwealth with the utmost professionalism, dedication, and distinction; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by one daughter, Susan, Thomas Moss will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his devoted wife, Norma Jean; children, Elizabeth, Thomas III, and Joey, and their families; and numerous other 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 the Honorable Thomas W. Moss, Jr., a respected attorney, accomplished public servant, and devoted community leader in Norfolk; 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 Thomas W. Moss, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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