HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 256

Celebrating the life of James Edward Cozart.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 11, 2016

WHEREAS, James Edward Cozart, a businessman and a respected member of the Southwest Virginia community, died on March 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, a native of Marion, South Carolina, James "Jim" Edward Cozart grew up in Abingdon; he graduated from William King High School and Virginia Polytechnic Institute, where he was a member of the Corps of Cadets; and

WHEREAS, Jim Cozart honorably served his country as a member of the United States Air Force during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, after his military service, Jim Cozart returned to Southwest Virginia to manage his family's tobacco warehouse business in Abingdon; his success in the tobacco industry earned him the nickname "Tobacco King"; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Jim Cozart grew an average of 80 acres of burley tobacco each year, operated five tobacco auction warehouses in Southwest Virginia and East Tennessee, and operated a flue-cured tobacco warehouse in Nashville, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Jim Cozart supported the community in many other ways, and he enjoyed fellowship and worship with his neighbors as a member of Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, Jim Cozart will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 52 years, Joan; children, Edward, Michael, and Parris, and their families; 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 James Edward Cozart; 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 James Edward Cozart as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.