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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 480

Offered March 2, 2020

*Celebrating the life of Lawrence Harold Hoover, Jr.*

Patron—Sullivan

WHEREAS, Lawrence Harold Hoover, Jr., a prominent Harrisonburg attorney known as the "father of mediation in Virginia," died on September 6, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence "Larry" Harold Hoover, Jr., graduated *magna cum laude* from Hampden-Sydney College in 1956 and earned his juris doctorate from the University of Virginia School of Law three years later; and

WHEREAS, early in his career, Larry Hoover served as a legal officer for the United States Department of State, serving posts in Manila, Philippines, and Geneva, Switzerland, before returning to Harrisonburg in 1971, when he partnered with his father to form the law firm now known as Hoover Penrod, PLC; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, Larry Hoover was a co-founder of the Community Mediation Center in Harrisonburg, now known as the Fairfield Center, because he saw shortcomings in the legal system that he wanted to address in order to better serve clients' needs; and

WHEREAS, for his many accomplishments as a legal professional, Larry Hoover received numerous awards, including the 2005 Tradition of Excellence Award from the General Practice Section of the Virginia State Bar and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Harrisonburg Mayor Chris Jones proclaimed April 23, 2016, as Larry Hoover Day and presented Larry Hoover with the first Lawrence H. Hoover, Jr., Award for Excellence in Peaceable Service to the Community; and

WHEREAS, Larry Hoover shared his passion for and knowledge of alternative dispute methods with students at the Washington and Lee University School of Law, the University of Virginia School of Law, and Bridgewater College, supporting many of them throughout their careers; and

WHEREAS, Larry Hoover made significant contributions to his community through his service in several civic organizations in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, including the Community Foundation, the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University, Gemeinschaft Home, and the Blue Ridge Community College Education Foundation; and

WHEREAS, inspired to serve others by his unwavering faith, Larry Hoover enjoyed worship and fellowship with his community at Bridgewater Church of the Brethren; and

WHEREAS, Larry Hoover will be dearly remembered and missed by his wife of 39 years, Pat; his children, Cornelia and John, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; 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 Lawrence Harold Hoover, Jr., distinguished attorney of Harrisonburg and pioneer in the practice of mediation in Virginia; 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 Lawrence Harold Hoover, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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