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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 545

Offered August 20, 2020

Celebrating the life of the Honorable George Earl Lovelace.

Patrons—Keam, Adams, D.M., Avoli, Bulova, Carr, Cole, J.G., Cole, M.L., Davis, Delaney, Guzman, Hope, Jenkins, Jones, Kory, Lindsey, McQuinn, Murphy, Rasoul, Sickles, Simonds, Subramanyam, Tyler, Ware and Watts

WHEREAS, the Honorable George Earl Lovelace of Locust Grove, a consummate public servant who served on the Vienna Town Council for many years and became the first African American to represent a Northern Virginia district in the Virginia House of Delegates since the Reconstruction era, died on March 22, 2020; and

WHEREAS, George Lovelace grew up in Evansville, Indiana, and graduated from Lincoln University; he later earned a master's degree from The George Washington University; and

WHEREAS, George Lovelace served his country as a member of the United States Army Signal Corps during the Vietnam War; he subsequently completed postings in Europe and Turkey and at the Pentagon before retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1979; and

WHEREAS, after his honorable military service, George Lovelace pursued a career in information technology management and consulting, working with Corporation Services Company, Boeing, Electronic Data Systems, and the General Services Administration; and

WHEREAS, George Lovelace was elected to the Vienna Town Council in 1982 and worked diligently to enhance the quality of life for his fellow residents for the next 14 years; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of further service to the community and the Commonwealth, George Lovelace ran for and was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates during a special election in 1996 and represented the residents of the 35th District for one year; and

WHEREAS, George Lovelace returned to the Vienna Town Council in 2003 and represented the community before several boards and commissions, including the Fairfax County Small Business Commission and the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, until his retirement in 2010; and

WHEREAS, George Lovelace volunteered his time and expertise as a court-appointed special advocate for neglected and abused children and as a mediator in Spotsylvania County and Washington, D.C.; he was a longtime member of the Lake of the Woods Lions Club and Saint Isidore the Farmer Catholic Church, where he shared his passion for song with the congregation as a cantor; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, George Lovelace served the Town of Vienna, Fairfax County, and the Commonwealth with the utmost dedication and distinction; and

WHEREAS, George Lovelace will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife Donalda; his daughters, Dawn and Donalda, and their families; and numerous other family members, friends, and colleagues on both sides of the aisle; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of the Honorable George Earl Lovelace, a distinguished public servant who made many contributions to the Commonwealth; 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 George Earl Lovelace as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.