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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 630

Offered February 7, 2023

*Celebrating the life of Ellsworth L.B. Weaver, Sr.*

Patron—Webert

WHEREAS, Ellsworth L.B. Weaver, Sr., of Bealeton, in Fauquier County, a licensed building contractor, musician, actor, educator, and passionate advocate for equity and social justice, died on January 6, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Ellsworth Weaver was born in Fauquier County and attended the former W.C. Taylor High School; and

WHEREAS, a passionate lifelong learner, Ellsworth Weaver earned degrees and certifications from what is now Hampton University, the Carolina University of Theology, California Coast University, National Louis University, Virginia University of Lynchburg, and the Wentworth Institute of Technology; and

WHEREAS, Ellsworth Weaver was a Class A licensed building contractor and worked on three major construction projects in foreign countries, two in Saudi Arabia and one in Gambia; and

WHEREAS, Ellsworth Weaver was also a technology instructor in Fauquier County Public Schools, an adjunct professor at what is now Reynolds Community College, and a communication skills instructor at Virginia Union University; and

WHEREAS, after realizing that there were African American teachers in the region being paid far less than their white counterparts, Ellsworth Weaver dedicated his visionary leadership skills to the pursuit of civil rights and social justice and ultimately became president of the Fauquier County Branch of the NAACP, a position he held at the time of his death; and

WHEREAS, Ellsworth Weaver earned a reputation for speaking truth to power and built strong relationships founded on trust, respect, and mutual understanding with law-enforcement officers, government officials, and other local leaders to enhance community life; and

WHEREAS, Ellsworth Weaver inspired others to strive to bridge racial divides and build a better society for all Virginians; and

WHEREAS, outside of his careers and community leadership, Ellsworth Weaver was the co-organizer and music director of the River Bank Choir, which performed at venues in Culpeper County and Rappahannock County, as well as at James Madison's Montpelier, and the Afro-American Historical Association of Fauquier County's museum in The Plains, where he also performed in theater productions; and

WHEREAS, Ellsworth Weaver enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as a member of St. James Baptist Church in Bealeton, where he was an ordained deacon, a Bible study teacher, and a musician for the combined choir; and

WHEREAS, Ellsworth Weaver also expressed his faith through his contributions to the Northern Virginia Baptist Association as president of the organization's men's ministry and a member of the education commission and the executive board; and

WHEREAS, Ellsworth Weaver will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his beloved wife, Taryn; his children, Ellsworth, Jr., and DeBorah, 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 Ellsworth L.B. Weaver, Sr., a community leader who touched countless lives throughout the Commonwealth and the world; 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 Ellsworth L.B. Weaver, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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