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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 664

Offered February 13, 2023

Celebrating the life of Muhammed Jafar Imam.

Patrons—Shin, Murphy, Rasoul, Delaney, Gooditis, Kory, Plum, Reid, Simon and Subramanyam; Senators: Boysko and Favola

WHEREAS, Muhammed Jafar Imam, an esteemed, beloved, and pioneering member of the All Dulles Area Muslim Society community in Sterling, died on December 5, 2022; and

WHEREAS, a native of India and a 47-year resident of Sterling, Muhammed Jafar Imam walked to school for miles barefoot in a small village in Bihar, India, and later graduated with a master's degree from Karachi University in Pakistan; and

WHEREAS, Muhammed Jafar Imam came to the United States in 1975, settling in Sterling, where he established his home and family and personally invited countless people to join the community of the All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) Center, which is now one of the largest Muslim American communities in the country; in a beautiful blessing, the ADAMS mosque was built next to his home in Sterling; and

WHEREAS, Muhammed Jafar Imam had the spirit of a lion and never forgot his roots; he passionately volunteered to make a positive impact locally and around the world for those less fortunate, doing so with no need for recognition; he believed in the rights and dignity of all and made it his mission to serve the people; and

WHEREAS, Muhammed Jafar Imam was a key leader and volunteer with ADAMS Civic Engagement and in voter education and voter registration efforts, and he believed sincerely in grassroots civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, Muhammed Jafar Imam loved people and modeled what it means to put relationships first; he made one feel like they were his best friend, and he made many friends over the years, keeping them all close; and

WHEREAS, Muhammed Jafar Imam was fearless, a free spirit, and never broke his promises; he lived by the words "*Agar may vadha karta hu, may pura kartha hu*"—"If I make a promise, I fulfill it in its entirety"; and

WHEREAS, Muhammed Jafar Imam will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his loving wife, Zeenat; his children, Shazia and Imran, 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 Muhammed Jafar Imam, a dedicated member of the communities of the All Dulles Area Muslim Society and Sterling, who left a profound and lasting impression on countless lives; 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 Muhammed Jafar Imam as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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