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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 325

Offered February 13, 1996

On the death of Mark Russell Wilson, Sr.

Patrons—Rhodes, Bloxom, Callahan, Cantor, Cox, Croshaw, Crouch, Cunningham, Drake, Guest, Hall, Hargrove, Harris, Howell, Jones, D.C., McClure, McDonnell, McEachin, Mims, Morgan, Moss, O'Brien, Parrish, Purkey, Putney, Reid, Rollison, Ruff, Sherwood, Tata, Wagner, Wardrup, Way and Weatherholtz; Senators: Benedetti, Earley, Holland, Schrock, Stolle, Stosch and Walker

Consent to introduce

WHEREAS, Mark Russell, Wilson, Sr., a decorated U.S. Navy Lieutenant and a member of the Navy's elite SEALs, died while on active duty on December 4, 1995; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Virginia Beach, Mark Wilson grew up in Richmond and graduated in 1984 from Mills Godwin High School in Henrico County, where he was a member of the track team; and

WHEREAS, following graduation from Virginia Military Institute in 1988, Mark Wilson was commissioned as a Navy ensign and soon thereafter served an internship with the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Wilson was later stationed in San Diego, where he served as a weapons officer and communication officer aboard the U.S.S. Fort McHenry; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, Lieutenant Wilson was deployed to the Western Pacific during Operation Desert Storm, which led to the Persian Gulf War; and

WHEREAS, realizing a childhood dream, Lieutenant Mark Wilson graduated from the U.S. Navy SEAL Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL Training Center in Coronado, California, in February 1995 and joined SEAL Team TWO in March; and

WHEREAS, during his brilliant Navy career, Lieutenant Wilson was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal with Gold Star, and the Southwest Asia Service Medal with two Bronze Stars; and

WHEREAS, his too-short life marked by outstanding achievement, Lieutenant Mark Wilson leaves a sterling legacy of service to his country; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the untimely passing of a fine young Virginian, Mark Russell Wilson, Sr.; 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 Mark Russell Wilson, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.