

# 1997 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 771

Offered February 22, 1997

*On the death of Glenn O. Wills.*

Patrons—Cranwell; Senator: Edwards

Consent to introduce

WHEREAS, Glenn O. Wills, a retired police officer and founding member of the Virginia State Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police, died on February 16, 1997, at the age of 83; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Wills joined the Roanoke City Police Department in 1940, where he served until his retirement in 1968; and

WHEREAS, in 1952, Glenn Wills was among 11 city police officers who met in secret to charter the state's first Fraternal Order of Police organization, at a time when many city officials erroneously believed that the Order was a labor union; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Wills was ahead of his time in supporting the concept of community policing and founded the Fraternal Order of Police in Roanoke because of his belief in the organization's mission to develop links between the community and the police; and

WHEREAS, termed "the father of the Virginia F.O.P.," Glenn Wills helped found the Virginia State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and was elected its first president; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Wills, highly esteemed in his community, was a charter member and deacon of the Ninth Street Church of Brethren, where he remained an active member until his death; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Glenn Wills gave generously of his time and talents in concern for his profession and his community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly note with sadness the passing of a dedicated police officer and fine citizen, Glenn O. Wills; 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 Glenn O. Wills as an expression of the high esteem in which his life of community service is held by the members of the General Assembly and the citizens of Virginia.

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