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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 283

Offered February 22, 2000

Celebrating the life of Ronald W. Blake.

Patrons-Mims; Delegates: Black and May

WHEREAS, Ronald W. Blake of Leesburg, a Loudoun County farmer, businessman, and civic leader, died on February 6, 2000; and

WHEREAS, a native of Fairfax County, Ronald Blake interrupted his college education at Virginia Tech to enlist in the United States Army during World War II, serving as a first lieutenant in the 60th Combat Engineers Battalion in Western Europe; and

WHEREAS, shortly after his return from the war, Ronald Blake opened his landscaping business, located near Leesburg, and in 1960, settled with his family on a small farm near Waterford; and

WHEREAS, involved in civic affairs in Loudoun County for many years, Ronald Blake was instrumental in the many planning decisions made during the period of rapid growth caused by the construction of Dulles Airport; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Loudoun County Planning Commission from 1965 to 1975, Ronald Blake served as chairman of the commission from 1972 to 1975; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Blake was a member of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors from 1976 to 1980 and served on the Leesburg Town Council from 1992 to 1994; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Blake was also a member of the Leesburg Airport Commission from 1993 to 1998 and served as a representative to the Leesburg Board of Architectural Review from 1992 to 1994; and

WHEREAS, a successful cattle farmer, Ronald Blake, with his three sons, was an enthusiastic participant in the county's 4-H beef cattle program and served as director and president of Loudoun 4-H; and

WHEREAS, widely known and respected throughout his community, Ronald Blake leaves an enduring record of dedicated, thoughtful, and conscientious service to the citizens of Loudoun County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly note with sadness the passing of an outstanding Virginian, Ronald W. Blake; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Ronald W. Blake as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.