

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 306

Offered January 29, 2002

Celebrating the life of Richard M. Bagley, Sr.

Patrons—Christian, Abbitt, Almand, Amundson, Armstrong, Athey, Barlow, Baskerville, Bell, Black, Bland, Bloxom, Bolvin, Brink, Broman, Bryant, Byron, Callahan, Carrico, Cole, Cosgrove, Councill, Cox, Crittenden, Darner, Devolites, Dillard, Drake, Dudley, Gear, Griffith, Hall, Hamilton, Hargrove, Howell, Hull, Ingram, Joannou, Johnson, Jones, D.C., Jones, S.C., Keister, Kilgore, Landes, Lingamfelter, Louderback, Marrs, Marshall, R.G., May, McDonnell, McDougle, McQuigg, Melvin, Miles, Moran, Morgan, Nixon, Nutter, O'Bannon, O'Brien, Oder, Orrock, Parrish, Petersen, Phillips, Plum, Pollard, Purkey, Putney, Rapp, Reese, Reid, Rollison, Rust, Saxman, Scott, Sears, Sherwood, Shuler, Spruill, Stump, Suit, Tata, Thomas, Van Landingham, Van Yahres, Wardrup, Ware, Watts, Weatherholtz, Welch, Wilkins, Woodrum and Wright; Senators: Barry, Blevins, Bolling, Byrne, Chichester, Colgan, Deeds, Edwards, Hanger, Hawkins, Houck, Howell, Lambert, Lucas, Marsh, Martin, Marye, Maxwell, Miller, K.G., Miller, Y.B., Mims, Newman, Norment, Potts, Puckett, Puller, Quayle, Rerras, Reynolds, Ruff, Saslaw, Stolle, Stosch, Ticer, Trumbo, Wagner, Wampler, Watkins, Whipple and Williams

WHEREAS, Richard M. Bagley, Sr., of Hampton, a prominent member of the House of Delegates for 20 years, a staunch and effective advocate for the mentally disabled, and Virginia's first Secretary of Economic Development, died on December 13, 2001; and

WHEREAS, a native of Hampton and a graduate of Virginia Tech, Richard "Dick" Bagley was active in civic and political activities at the local and state levels for many years; and

WHEREAS, Dick Bagley served in the U.S. Coast Guard during World War II and was a major in the U.S. Air Force Reserves; and

WHEREAS, elected to the House of Delegates in 1965, Dick Bagley represented the citizens of the Peninsula for 20 years and for the last eight years was chairman of the House Appropriations Committee; and

WHEREAS, Dick Bagley was recognized in the Legislature as an innovative and effective advocate for the mentally ill, heading a legislative committee that came to be known as the Bagley Commission; and

WHEREAS, largely as a result of the work of the Bagley Commission, Virginia's mental health programs were substantially strengthened and the initial framework for community services for the mentally ill was established; and

WHEREAS, throughout his two decades in the General Assembly, Dick Bagley established a reputation as a fiscal conservative, and as chairman of the Appropriations Committee was known for demanding a high level of accountability on the part of state officials and was credited with opening up the budget process to the press and the public; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement from the General Assembly, Dick Bagley was named Virginia's first Secretary of Economic Development by Governor Gerald Baliles in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Dick Bagley also served on Virginia Tech's board of visitors, alumni board, and educational foundation and was active in a wide range of Hampton and Peninsula civic organizations, including the Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce, Big Brothers, and the Peninsula Economic Development Council; and

WHEREAS, honored repeatedly for his civic activities, Dick Bagley was the recipient of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award, the Peninsula Council Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Citizen Award, and many other honors and citations; and

WHEREAS, throughout a long career in public service, Dick Bagley remained true to his principles and served the citizens of Hampton and the Commonwealth with uncommon dedication, commitment, and effectiveness; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of one of its most distinguished former members, Richard M. Bagley, 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 Richard M. Bagley, Sr., as an expression of the respect in which his memory is held by the members of the General Assembly and the citizens of Virginia.