

2006 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19

Offered January 11, 2006

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Celebrating the life of Dr. B. J. Tucker.

Patron—Miller

WHEREAS, Dr. B. J. Tucker of Norfolk, a compassionate physician and respected and admired community leader and benefactor, died on April 28, 2005; and

WHEREAS, born in Magnolia, Arkansas, B. J. Tucker's love of music earned him a scholarship to Michigan State University, where he attended until entering the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, during his military service, B. J. Tucker developed an interest in math, science, and medicine; after completing his tour of duty, he returned to college and graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor; and

WHEREAS, while at college, B. J. Tucker met and married a native Virginian, Cecelia Taliaferro, and the couple moved to Norfolk in 1965; and

WHEREAS, an innovative and caring leader in the community, Dr. Tucker successfully opened and nurtured a health clinic in Berkley on Liberty Street, which became the first health clinic established in the City of Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, the health clinic provided general medical care, dentistry, podiatry, and pediatric services to the community; Dr. Tucker encouraged total wellness and preventive medicine for his patients in South Norfolk well before the practice was considered standard medical care; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tucker, a lifelong learner with a keen intellect and intense curiosity, read five newspapers daily, delved into every subject with enthusiasm, traveled to Africa and studied its history and culture, and was thought of as the proverbial Renaissance man by his many admirers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tucker tirelessly supported the community and its residents in every conceivable way he could—he helped train the first emergency medical technicians (EMTs); he was an active leader and member of the Berkley and Beacon Light Civic Leagues and the Great Society Era Model Cities Program, a founder of the Tidewater Area Business League and the Greater Norfolk Development Corporation, and a member of numerous other civic and professional organizations; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tucker will be fondly remembered and sorely missed by his family, his numerous friends and colleagues, and the countless patients and residents he assisted in his beloved City of Norfolk; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of a dedicated and compassionate physician and outstanding Virginian, Dr. B. J. Tucker; and, be it

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

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