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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 254

Offered January 18, 2008

Celebrating the life of Walter A. Bowry, Jr.

Patrons—Hall, Alexander, Dance, Jones, D.C., Loupassi, McClellan, Morrissey, O'Bannon, Shannon, Spruill, Tyler, Ward and Ware, O.; Senators: Deeds and McEachin

WHEREAS, Walter A. Bowry, Jr., of Richmond, a respected citizen and pioneer in the television industry in Virginia, died on September 26, 2007; and

WHEREAS, Walter Bowry graduated from the University of Richmond in 1939, married the late Phyllis Havens, and the couple were the parents of two devoted daughters, Pamela Blanton of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and the late Jane Butler of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Walter Bowry served his country as a senior grade lieutenant in the United States Navy during World War II, where he served as a communications officer for the Administrative Commander of Mine Craft for the Pacific Fleet; and

WHEREAS, after the war, Walter Bowry returned to civilian life and joined radio station WMBG, which is now WTVR; and

WHEREAS, excited about the emerging television industry, Walter Bowry, as assistant general manager, was instrumental in bringing WTVR Channel 6 to Richmond, one of the first of seven television stations established in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Walter Bowry was especially proud when CBS executives invited him to address their East Coast broadcasters on how to build a significant television audience; and

WHEREAS, Walter Bowry was a longtime member of the Television Pioneers of America, the Phi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, and the Country Club of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, always ready to help his fellow citizens in need, Walter Bowry generously gave his time and talent as a devoted volunteer at St. Mary's Hospital for over 25 years; and

WHEREAS, Walter Bowry was a faithful member of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Richmond, where he served as a trustee and deacon and was active in the church's many missions in the community; and

WHEREAS, active all his life, Walter Bowry loved the outdoors and enjoyed his favorite pastime, playing golf, and he won statewide honors for his exceptional play; and

WHEREAS, Walter Bowry will be fondly remembered for his kind and generous nature and will be greatly missed by his loving friends and family, including his six grandchildren, Vinson, Havens, Katherine, Hunter, Lexie, and Ashley and great-grandson Alexander, and the congregation of Tabernacle Baptist Church; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of a fine business leader and outstanding Virginian, Walter A. Bowry, Jr.; 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 Walter A. Bowry, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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