

2011 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 769

Offered January 31, 2011

Celebrating the life of Obediah Gladen Baker, Sr.

Patron—Howell, A.T.

WHEREAS, Obediah Gladen Baker, Sr., a respected citizen of the Commonwealth and resident of Suffolk, died on October 5, 2010; and

WHEREAS, a proud provider for his family, Obediah Baker worked as a bricklayer and as a farmer for more than four decades; and

WHEREAS, an active member of Mount Sinai Baptist Church from an early age, Obediah Baker took many leadership positions, serving as the Church Treasurer, Trustee, Deacon, and Sexton; and

WHEREAS, Obediah Baker was committed to the idea that today's youth are tomorrow's future and served as the Superintendent of Sunday School and taught Youth Sunday School at Mount Sinai Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Obediah Baker shared his musical talent with the congregation of Mount Sinai Baptist Church as a member of the Mount Sinai Male Chorus who knew him affectionately as "Shake & Bake" and "Gus"; and

WHEREAS, committed to the Masonic ideals and principles, Obediah Baker joined Holland Masonic Lodge No. 256 on January 16, 1937, and was the oldest member of the lodge and the longest serving lodge member in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, social by nature, Obediah Baker was a regular at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center's Oak Street senior citizens group in Franklin; and

WHEREAS, an upstanding Virginian, Obediah Baker valued family and will be remembered for his commitment to his community; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by Thora, his wife of 60 years, Obediah Baker will be fondly remembered by his five children; his ten grandchildren; his eight great-grandchildren; and many family members, friends, and neighbors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Obediah Gladen Baker, Sr., respected citizen of the Commonwealth; 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 Obediah Gladen Baker, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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