

2011 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5005

Celebrating the life of Stanley Bleifeld.

Agreed to by the Senate, April 5, 2011

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, April 6, 2011

WHEREAS, Stanley Bleifeld, internationally known sculptor, was born on August 28, 1924, in Brooklyn, New York, and entered into eternal rest on March 25, 2011, in his hometown of Weston, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, Stanley Bleifeld began his illustrious fine arts career as a painter after earning his baccalaureate and graduate degrees in fine arts from Temple University; and

WHEREAS, while visiting Italy in 1959, Stanley Bleifeld was exposed to the bronzes of Donatello, Michelangelo, and Ghiberti, which stimulated his interest in and passion for sculpture, and many of his early sculptures reflected religious themes; and

WHEREAS, Stanley Bleifeld, a bright and gifted teacher, shared his love of art by teaching elementary school students in Weston, Connecticut, and by serving as a workshop teacher at Scottsdale Artists School in Scottsdale, Arizona; from 1964 to 1966, he taught art at Silvermine Guild Art Center in New Canaan, Connecticut, before building his own studio in 1967 to teach sculptors from surrounding communities; and from 1969 to 1973, he taught art at the Richmondville Avenue Old Mill Studios in Weston; and

WHEREAS, many prestigious awards and honors were bestowed upon Stanley Bleifeld during his lifetime, among them Sculptor of the Year in Pietrasanta and the World in 2004; the Henry Hering Memorial Medal of the National Sculpture Society, for which he served two years as president; the Medal of Liberty from the American Civil Liberties Union; and the Shikler Award from the National Academy of Design, an organization whose policy he helped to establish and for which he served as National Academician in Sculpture; and

WHEREAS, Stanley Bleifeld was an adored and preferred sculptor for many public monuments around the world, and among his many celebrated works are "The Prophets," for the Vatican Pavilion at the 1964 World's Fair; the larger than life sculpture, "Lone Sailor," at the United States Navy Memorial in Washington, D. C.; a sculpture at the Knights of Columbus Memorial in Connecticut; the Westport Arts Lifetime Achievement in Visual Arts Award, of which he was a recipient in 2005; numerous baseball players at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York; "Family at Play" at Regency Square in Richmond; and "It Seemed like Reaching for the Moon," the historic Civil Rights Monument in the Square of the State Capitol in Richmond, which commemorates the student protests that helped to usher in school desegregation in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the creative and artistic genius of Stanley Bleifeld is also displayed in the many bronzes, paintings, and sculptures held in numerous private collections throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Stanley Bleifeld, legendary sculptor, will also be remembered for his kindness, generosity, professionalism, optimism, hilarity, and love of art, and for sharing his aesthetic gifts willingly with the many artists with whom he worked throughout the years; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather, a loyal friend, and respected and admired sculptor and artist, Stanley Bleifeld will be lovingly remembered by his family and colleagues, and his great talent and passion for art displayed in his artistic works throughout the world will continue to illumine and inspire mankind "to reach for the moon"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Stanley Bleifeld; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Mrs. Naomi Bleifeld, beloved wife of Stanley Bleifeld, artist and sculptor extraordinaire, as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation of his dedicated service to the Commonwealth and abiding respect for his memory.

ENROLLED

SJ5005ER