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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 726

Offered January 14, 2013

Celebrating the life of Henry Snead Martin, Jr., D.D.S.

Patrons—Carr, BaCote, Dance, Howell, A.T., James, McClellan, McQuinn, Morrissey, Spruill, Tyler and Ware, O.; Senators: Alexander, Locke and Marsh

WHEREAS, Henry Snead Martin, Jr., D.D.S., a Korean War veteran, dedicated educator and coach, skillful dentist, and admired public health administrator from Richmond, died on May 15, 2012; and

WHEREAS, one of eight siblings raised in the Fulton Hill area of Richmond, Henry Martin grew up in a home that emphasized the importance of education and excellence in one's endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Henry Martin carried these lessons throughout his life, working as a trainer for the Virginia State College (now University) basketball and football teams while a student, and proudly serving his country in the United States Army Quartermaster Corps during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, after his military service, Henry Martin relocated to Selma, Alabama, where he had family, and taught and coached high school basketball, football, and wrestling teams; his commitment to excellence and hard work resulted in all three teams winning state championships in one year; and

WHEREAS, Henry Martin returned to school at Virginia Union University to further his education, taking pre-med classes before enrolling at the College of Dentistry at Howard University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin later established a practice in Washington, D.C., faithfully and skillfully serving his patients and training a new generation of dentists at Howard University before he returned to his hometown to open his own practice; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin then returned to Washington, D.C., again, serving in the city's public health department and rising to become department chief, where he provided strong leadership to promote and protect the health and well-being of the residents of the nation's capital; and

WHEREAS, in retirement, Dr. Martin entered the business world, joining in a parking business with his wife, Ruby Grant Martin, the former Virginia Secretary of Administration, and owning several pizza franchises; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin continued his love of and association with sports with the founding of the National Negro Golf Association; he was also co-owner of the International Basketball League and general manager of its local team, the Richmond Rhythm; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin was also a founding member of the Richmond chapter of the National Association of the Guardsmen, member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and usher at St. Paul's Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, a man of great character, compassion, and intelligence, Dr. Martin, predeceased by his beloved wife, Ruby, touched the lives of countless individuals over the course of his life and will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his children, George, Cheryl, and Anthony, and their families; and numerous other family members, friends, former patients, and colleagues; 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 a respected health care professional and public health leader, Henry Snead Martin, Jr., D.D.S.; 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 Henry Snead Martin, Jr., D.D.S., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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