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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 55

Offered January 8, 2014

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Celebrating the life of Philip Randolph Thomas, M.D.

Patron—Jones

WHEREAS, Philip Randolph Thomas, M.D., a beloved physician who served the Chuckatuck community in Suffolk for nearly six decades, died on April 19, 2013; and

WHEREAS, a native of Richmond, Philip Thomas knew at a young age that he wanted to be a doctor; he entered The College of William and Mary in 1939, but interrupted his studies to join the other young men of his generation in the war effort; and

WHEREAS, Philip Thomas proudly served his country during World War II as a medic in the United States Army; he received a Purple Heart after being wounded by shrapnel in Germany; and

WHEREAS, after his exemplary military service, Philip Thomas returned to The College of William and Mary and earned a medical degree from what was then known as the Medical College of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, following an internship in Norfolk, Dr. Thomas practiced briefly in Whaleyville before deciding to open his own practice in Chuckatuck; and

WHEREAS, for nearly 60 years, Dr. Thomas professionally and compassionately met the medical needs of local community members, delivering more than an estimated 2,000 babies and treating a wide array of illnesses and injuries; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas also practiced at the Sentara Obici Hospital for several decades and served as chief medical examiner for the City of Suffolk; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas enjoyed fellowship and worship alongside other community members at St. Paul's Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, a pillar of the community who touched the lives of countless individuals, Dr. Thomas was honored for his contributions to Chuckatuck and the surrounding area when he received the 1991 First Citizen Award from the Rotary Club of Suffolk; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his wife, Mary Lou, Philip Thomas will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his children, Mary, Geoffrey, Philip, Stephen, and Katherine, and their families; numerous other family members and friends; and his many former patients; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of a respected physician, Philip Randolph Thomas, M.D.; 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 Philip Randolph Thomas, M.D., as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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