

2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5001

Offered March 24, 2014

Prefiled March 21, 2014

Celebrating the life of Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr.

Patrons—Tyler and Wright

WHEREAS, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., was born on March 6, 1926, in the Town of Unionville in Orange County, and called to eternal rest on March 5, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., affectionately known as "Hop," was the youngest of six children, and he spent his early years learning to play golf and football on the campus of the private Woodberry Forest School, where his parents worked for many years; and

WHEREAS, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., attended Madison County Elementary School and graduated from Lightfoot High School; he was drafted into the United States Army in 1945 and served his country valiantly until his honorable discharge in 1946; and

WHEREAS, following his military service, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., attended Saint Paul's College in Lawrenceville, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in business administration; he received his master's degree in education administration and supervision at Virginia State University in 1976; and

WHEREAS, after his marriage on August 12, 1950, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., was recalled to military service during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, after returning to civilian life, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., worked in civil service at Camp Pickett, currently known as Fort Pickett, and Fort Story at its hospital and in post-engineering; and

WHEREAS, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., was a loving husband and father who shared his deep faith, love of westerns, and mischievous sense of humor with his children; he was committed to a life of service and helped to educate other children by working in the Lunenburg County Public Schools, where during his 35-year tenure he worked as a teacher, assistant principal, and special education supervisor; and

WHEREAS, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., was active in his community; he served as a member of the Kenbridge Town Council and was elected chairman in 1992; as a Council member, he was influential in improving the sewage system and paving streets and ensuring that African Americans were represented fairly during redistricting; his dedication to the cause of justice compelled him to bravely litigate to ensure racial equality in his community; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement from Lunenburg County Public Schools in 1988, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., continued to devote time to his family, particularly his grandchildren; an avid football and basketball fan, he indulged his passion for fishing, hunting, and gardening and continued to serve his community and his church; and

WHEREAS, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., served faithfully as a member of the Friends of Lunenburg Committee, the Legislative Steering Committee on Planning and Natural Resources of the Virginia Association of Counties, Lunenburg County Ministries, #214 Free and Accepted Masons, the Rotary Club of Lunenburg County, the Optimists Club, the Boy Scouts, and the NAACP; and

WHEREAS, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., the last surviving Hopkins sibling, was an exemplary citizen and an impeccable gentleman; and

WHEREAS, Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., truly one-of-a-kind, leaves to cherish his memory a loving family and many relatives, close friends, 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 Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr.; 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 Isiah Garfield Hopkins, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory and gratitude for his many contributions to the Commonwealth.

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