

2015 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 54

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled December 18, 2014

Celebrating the life of Harvey Nathaniel Johnson, Jr.

Patron—Lucas

WHEREAS, Harvey Nathaniel Johnson, Jr., of Portsmouth, an admired community organizer who dedicated much of his life to the pursuit of social justice and service to others, died on September 19, 2014; and

WHEREAS, a native of Richmond, Harvey Johnson graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Norfolk and earned a bachelor's degree from Virginia Union University; and

WHEREAS, Harvey Johnson began his professional career with the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority, where he helped develop two public housing communities; and

WHEREAS, after the outbreak of World War II, Harvey Johnson joined the United States Army; serving with distinction in France, he rose from private to sergeant major in 11 months; and

WHEREAS, after his honorable discharge, Harvey Johnson earned two graduate degrees and became a professor of economics at what is now known as Norfolk State University; he later held several administrative positions at the university, including recruiter and director of public relations; and

WHEREAS, in the 1970s, Harvey Johnson offered his leadership and expertise to the Southeastern Tidewater Opportunity Project, became the director of the Golden State College program at Norfolk Naval Base, and founded the National Institute for Minority Economic Advancement; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many endeavors, Harvey Johnson strove to create new opportunities for local residents in need and empower individuals to achieve their full potential as happy, contributing members of the community; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Harvey Johnson enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as an active member of Ebenezer Baptist Church for more than 80 years; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his wife, Ruth, Harvey Johnson will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his son, Harvey III, and his family and numerous other family members, friends, and members of the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of Virginia hereby note with great sadness the loss of Harvey Nathaniel Johnson, Jr., a respected community leader in Hampton Roads; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Harvey Nathaniel Johnson, Jr., as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect for his memory.

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