

## 2016 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 151

Offered February 22, 2016

*Celebrating the life of James A. Bill.*

Patron—Mason

WHEREAS, James A. Bill of Williamsburg, a renowned international scholar at The College of William & Mary and an expert on the Middle East, who was most proud of his role as husband, father, and grandfather, died on November 21, 2015; and

WHEREAS, James "Jim" A. Bill graduated from Assumption College as valedictorian and earned a master's degree from Pennsylvania State University; he lived in Iran for two years, gaining appreciation for and understanding of the country's culture while he pursued a doctorate from Princeton University; and

WHEREAS, Jim Bill began his career in education at the University of Texas at Austin, where he taught for 20 years; he made many trips to Iran and the Middle East and became known as one of the foremost experts on the region; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, Jim Bill joined The College of William & Mary as the founding director of the Reves Center for International Studies, which now supports hundreds of students studying abroad and hosts hundreds of international students and faculty scholars; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his career, Jim Bill inspired countless students to achieve their fullest potential; he was named professor emeritus of The College of William & Mary's Government Department, and the college conferred upon him its distinguished Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Jim Bill published 10 books, including the highly acclaimed *The Eagle and the Lion: The Tragedy of American-Iranian Relations* and *George Ball: Behind the Scenes in U.S. Foreign Policy*; he testified before the United States House of Representatives Committee on Armed Services on the eve of the Persian Gulf War in 1990 and was a sought-after radio and television commentator; and

WHEREAS, a devoted family man, Jim Bill will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his beloved wife of 50 years, Ann; children, Timothy and Rebecca, and their families; and numerous other family members, friends, and colleagues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of James A. Bill, a respected scholar and an admired member of the Williamsburg community; 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 James A. Bill as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

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