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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 376

Offered February 7, 2017

*Celebrating the life of Michael Moore Skinner.*

Patron—Surovell

WHEREAS, Michael Moore Skinner of Fairfax County, a beloved teacher, coach, administrator, and the "Golden Voice of the Majors" for decades at Mount Vernon High School in Alexandria, died on October 17, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Michael "Mike" Skinner served in the United States Navy in World War II aboard the USS *Washington*, manning one of the ship's 16-inch 45 caliber Mark 6 guns; and

WHEREAS, Mike Skinner graduated from Shepherd College in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, where he was a basketball standout, and received a master's degree in education from The George Washington University; and

WHEREAS, Mike Skinner began his long and illustrious career at Mount Vernon High School in 1955 and, over the course of the next 28 years, he taught social studies, physical education, and driver education, served as an administrator, and coached varsity basketball, junior varsity basketball, golf, and 8th grade football; and

WHEREAS, upon Mike Skinner's retirement in 1983, the Fairfax County School Board named the field house at Mount Vernon High School in his honor, citing the significant role he played in the growth and development of the school over almost three decades; and

WHEREAS, then-Governor Charles S. Robb, an alumnus of Mount Vernon High School, congratulated Mike Skinner on his retirement, thanking him for his dedication to enriching the lives of the students fortunate enough to cross his path; and

WHEREAS, even after his retirement from teaching full time, Mike Skinner was still a regular presence at Mount Vernon High School, announcing basketball games, wrestling tournaments, football games, and band competitions; and

WHEREAS, Mike Skinner's decades of service as the public address announcer for sporting events and other activities at Mount Vernon High School earned him the title "Golden Voice of the Majors," and he was known for the spirited and exciting delivery with which he delivered his commentary; and

WHEREAS, Mike Skinner attended Mount Vernon High School graduations for almost 60 years, was inducted into the Mount Vernon High School Hall of Fame, and was instrumental in raising money for turf fields and in getting lights for the school's football stadium; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of the Mount Vernon District of Fairfax County, Mike Skinner was a community institution in the area where he lived and worked; he belonged to Washington Farm United Methodist Church and Mount Vernon Country Club; and

WHEREAS, Mike Skinner will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 47 years, Lucy; children, Michelle, Michael, and Beverly, and their families; and many other relatives and friends from the Mount Vernon community and beyond; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Michael Moore Skinner, a beloved teacher, coach, administrator, the "Golden Voice of the Majors," and an institution for decades at Mount Vernon High School; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Michael Moore Skinner as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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