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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 478

Offered March 5, 2018

*Celebrating the life of George W. Thompson, Jr.*

Patrons—McQuinn, Bagby, Bourne and Carr

WHEREAS, George W. Thompson, Jr., a master tailor and a respected spiritual leader in Richmond, died on January 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, George Thompson attended Maggie L. Walker High School but enlisted in the United States Navy prior to his graduation, serving the nation from 1945 to 1949; after his military service, he returned to Richmond to complete his education and pursued a career as a tailor; and

WHEREAS, well-known as a skillful master draftsman of custom-made shirts, George Thompson worked at Creery Custom Shirt Makers for more than 35 years; during that time, he was the only draftsman on the East Coast who drafted patterns by hand and cut shirts with a knife; and

WHEREAS, in addition to creating fine shirts for many Richmond businessmen, attorneys, and state officials, George Thompson served a number of high-profile clients, including President Harry S. Truman; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, George Thompson taught Sunday school, served on various church committees, and was a joyful member of the Sydnor Singers, before he followed in his father's footsteps as a deacon; and

WHEREAS, George Thompson was ordained to diaconate of 31st Street Baptist Church in Richmond in 1963; he and his father, George W. Thompson, Sr., became the only father and son team to serve together in the church's history; and

WHEREAS, George Thompson was devoted to the congregation, serving as chair of the Deacons Ministry and superintendent of the church school for more than 35 years; he was a former president of the Church School Forum of Richmond and Vicinity, which supports church schools throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, committed to fostering leadership development and good citizenship among the young people of the community, George Thompson was instrumental in reviving and supporting Boy Scouts of America Troop 414, and he received national recognition for his work with the Scouts; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by one son, George, George Thompson will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 60 years, Mary; his children, Jonathan, Marchell, Myra, and Stephanie, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; 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 George W. Thompson, Jr.; 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 George W. Thompson, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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