

18107424D

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 189

Offered February 26, 2018

Celebrating the life of the Honorable Harry Burns Blevins, Sr.

Patrons—Cosgrove, Barker, Black, Carrico, Chafin, Chase, Dance, Deeds, DeSteph, Dunnivant, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Hanger, Howell, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Mason, McClellan, McDougale, McPike, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Peake, Petersen, Reeves, Ruff, Saslaw, Spruill, Stanley, Stuart, Sturtevant, Suetterlein, Surovell, Vogel, Wagner and Wexton

WHEREAS, the Honorable Harry Burns Blevins, Sr., a highly admired statesman and a respected leader in the Chesapeake community, died on February 19, 2018; and

WHEREAS, a native of Elk Park, North Carolina, Harry Blevins relocated to Elizabeth City with his family and went on to serve the youth of the community for more than 20 years as a teacher, coach, and principal at Great Bridge High School; he was a trusted mentor to countless students, giving them the tools to become responsible citizens of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of further service to the community and the Commonwealth, Harry Blevins ran for and was elected to the House of Delegates in 1997; he represented the residents of Chesapeake in the 78th District until 2001, when he was elected to the Senate of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, from 2001 to 2013, Harry Blevins represented the residents of parts of the Cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach and the Counties of Isle of Wight and Southampton in the 14th District; and

WHEREAS, during his time as a state lawmaker, Harry Blevins introduced and supported numerous important pieces of legislation to enhance the lives of all Virginians and offered his wisdom and leadership to several committees and commissions; and

WHEREAS, Harry Blevins treated everyone he met with dignity and civility, and he fostered bipartisan cooperation and mutual respect among his fellow legislators for the good of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Harry Blevins earned numerous awards and accolades for his lifetime of service, including the 1987 First Citizen of Chesapeake award from the Rotary Club of Chesapeake; and

WHEREAS, Harry Blevins will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 64 years, Margie; his children, Harry, Jr., Marsha, Daniel, and Linda, and their families; and numerous other family members, friends, and colleagues on both sides of the aisle; 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 the Honorable Harry Burns Blevins, Sr., a dedicated public servant and a true Southern gentleman; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of the Honorable Harry Burns Blevins, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

SJ189