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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 41

Offered February 19, 2018

Celebrating the life of James Michael Eastham, Sr.

Patron—Obenshain

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WHEREAS, James Michael Eastham, Sr., a beloved husband and father, respected business leader, and enthusiastic supporter of the Front Royal community, died on November 17, 2017; and

WHEREAS, born and raised in Front Royal, James "Jim" Eastham attended Woodberry Forest School and graduated from Washington and Lee University and the Virginia Bankers School of Bank Management at the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, along with forging a successful 35-year career in banking and financial management, Jim Eastham was a tireless advocate for his hometown of Front Royal, serving as mayor for two terms from 2004 to 2008, as president of the Front Royal Rotary Club, and as chairman of the Front Royal-Warren County Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Jim Eastham also brought his leadership talents to the Front Royal Planning Commission, the Warren Memorial Hospital Foundation, the Front Royal-Warren County Economic Development Authority, the Chamber of Commerce Foundation, and the Warren County Educational Endowment; and

WHEREAS, along with serving as an authority on the history of Front Royal, Jim Eastham was also a passionate supporter of beautification efforts in the town; among many other projects, he participated in the design of the town gazebo and the establishment of Eastham Park, which was created from land donated by his family; and

WHEREAS, Jim Eastham won numerous honors and recognitions during his lifetime, including the Blue Ridge Arts Council's 2005 Arts Citizen of the Year award and the Front Royal-Warren County Chamber of Commerce's 2008 Citizen of the Year award; in 2017, he was presented with the Robert E. "Bob" Miller Community Service Award by the Rotary Club of Front Royal for his wide-ranging contributions to his hometown; and

WHEREAS, outside of his career and community service, Jim Eastham had a lifelong interest in the arts and enjoyed fellowship and worship at Calvary Episcopal Church of Front Royal, where he served on numerous committees and sang in the choir; and

WHEREAS, Jim Eastham will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 38 years, Denise; his children, Laura and James, and their families; and countless other family members, friends, and Front Royal residents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of Virginia hereby note with great sadness the loss of James Michael Eastham, Sr., a dedicated and influential member of the Front Royal community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of James Michael Eastham, Sr., as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect for his memory.