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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 258

Offered February 8, 2019

Celebrating the life of Thomas Elder, Jr.

Patrons—Brewer and James

WHEREAS, Thomas Elder, Jr., a longtime resident of Norfolk who served the residents of Isle of Wight County as economic development director, died on June 10, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Elder graduated from Norfolk Academy and earned a bachelor's degree from Washington and Lee University, then pursued a 30-year career as a commercial real estate agent; and

WHEREAS, prior to joining the Isle of Wight County staff, Thomas Elder served as executive vice president of the Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance and assistant director of Chesapeake Economic Development; and

WHEREAS, in May 2015, Thomas Elder became the economic development director for Isle of Wight County, using his wealth of experience in the recruitment, retention, and expansion of businesses to strengthen the county and enhance the quality of life of all residents; and

WHEREAS, with his collaborative leadership style, Thomas Elder was a trusted mentor and friend to many colleagues throughout his career; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Elder worked to build strong, personal relationships with both business owners and members of the community, ensuring mutually beneficial economic growth and responsible development; and

WHEREAS, an avid sportsman who enjoyed hunting and fishing in the Commonwealth, Thomas Elder also played tennis at the Norfolk Yacht and Country Club and often participated in tournaments; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Elder will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by numerous family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Thomas Elder, Jr., who worked to enhance the quality of life in Isle of Wight County as economic development director; 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 Thomas Elder, Jr., as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.