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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 485

Offered February 12, 2003

On the death of Joseph A. Massie, Jr.

Patrons—Potts, Blevins, Bolling, Byrne, Chichester, Colgan, Cuccinelli, Deeds, Edwards, Hanger, Hawkins, Houck, Howell, Lambert, Lucas, Marsh, Martin, Maxwell, Miller, K.G., Miller, Y.B., Mims, Newman, Norment, O'Brien, Puckett, Puller, Quayle, Rerras, Reynolds, Ruff, Saslaw, Stolle, Stosch, Ticer, Trumbo, Wagner, Wampler, Watkins, Whipple and Williams

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Massie, Jr., a former Frederick County Commonwealth's Attorney and a longtime civic leader in the City of Winchester, died on December 16, 2002; and

WHEREAS, a native of Newport News, Joseph Massie graduated from Colorado College and earned his law degree at the University of Virginia Law School in 1946; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Massie served in the United States Navy during World War II, graduating from the Pensacola Naval Training Center and serving in a naval fighter squadron with the rank of lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Massie won election to the post of Commonwealth's Attorney for Frederick County in 1947 and served in that position with great distinction for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, widely known and highly respected in the Winchester community, Joseph Massie built an impressive legal career that spanned more than a half-century and was characterized by his generosity in teaching and mentoring young lawyers; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Winchester since 1923, Joseph Massie was an amateur historian especially well versed in the history of Winchester and the source of numerous and often humorous stories of the city's past; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Massie was a founding member and the first president of the Winchester Exchange Club and was a longtime member of the executive committee of the Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, by providing free legal work, Joseph Massie was instrumental in the organization of most of the volunteer fire and rescue companies in Frederick County; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Massie was a member of the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals Judicial Council, serving under Chief Justice William Rehnquist, and was a founding member of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association; and

WHEREAS, a man of many talents, a sincere dedication to the law, and a willingness to serve his community and the nation, Joseph Massie leaves a lasting legacy of service to the City of Winchester and Frederick County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly note with great sadness the loss of an exceptional Virginian, Joseph A. Massie, Jr.; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Joseph A. Massie, Jr., as an expression of the esteem in which his memory is held by the members of the General Assembly.

ENGROSSED

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