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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 818

Offered February 19, 2025

Commending Waller and Company Jewelers.

Patrons—Cousins, Callsen, Carr, Clark, Cole, Hope, Laufer, Owen, Rasoul and Ware

WHEREAS, Waller and Company Jewelers, a family-owned, Black-owned business, has provided exquisite watches, jewelry, and accessories, along with expert repair services, to members of the Richmond community for 125 years; and

WHEREAS, Waller and Company Jewelers was founded by Marcellus Carrington (M.C.) Waller, who developed a passion for horology after he fixed an old mantel clock in his grandmother's house when he was only eight years old; and

WHEREAS, M.C. Waller became a leading entrepreneur and a pioneer in Richmond's Black business community at the turn of the century; he worked for an insurance company, invested in real estate, and owned a grocery store before deciding to concentrate on watch and clock repair; and

WHEREAS, M.C. Waller established Waller and Company Jewelers, originally known as M.C. Waller & Sons, in the Carver neighborhood of Richmond in 1900; the store's commitment to excellence was evident in its early slogan "Let Waller make your watch tell the truth."; and

WHEREAS, Waller and Company Jewelers expanded over the years to offer a full range of quality watches, gold, silver, and gemstone jewelry, and custom paraphernalia for Greek-letter organizations and other fraternal and service organizations; and

WHEREAS, four generations of the Waller family have guided Waller and Company Jewelers, including Richard Waller, Jr., who followed in the footsteps of his grandfather, father, and uncles to train as a master jeweler and become the current owner in 1968; and

WHEREAS, Richard Waller, Jr., relocated Waller and Company Jewelers to its current storefront on Broad Street, where it has upheld its longstanding commitment to the finest customer service and built a strong sense of community by sponsoring and participating in local and regional events; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Waller and Company Jewelers hereby be commended on the occasion of its 125th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Waller and Company Jewelers as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the store's outstanding service to generations of customers and legacy of contributions to the Richmond community.

INTRODUCED

HR818