

2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

24200758D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1000

Offered October 29, 2025

Celebrating the life of Thomas Drummond Cropper Walker.

Patron—Bloxom

WHEREAS, Thomas Drummond Cropper Walker, known for his pioneering work in the Commonwealth's shellfish aquaculture industry, specifically clam farming, died on May 21, 2025; and

WHEREAS, born in 1957 to William and Martha Shinn Walker, Thomas Walker grew up on the Eastern Shore and spent his youth hunting, fishing, and developing an appreciation for the natural world and a lifelong passion for the shores and waters of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Walker was fascinated by weather patterns and enjoyed making his own weather predictions; he studied the role of the Eastern Shore's seaside barrier islands as habitats for wildlife and an important natural barrier protecting the mainland from storm surges and other weather impacts; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Walker and his brother, William Wade, became the sixth generation of their family to run J.C. Walker Brothers, Inc., a clam farm in the Volgenau Virginia Coastal Reserve; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Walker fought tirelessly to clean a polluted Parting Creek, helping to establish it as the keystone of East Coast clam production, and he later served the Commonwealth as a member of the State Water Control Board; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Walker organized expeditions around the globe in pursuit of waves, snow, and fish, sharing adventures with many fellow Virginians; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Walker enjoyed bringing family and friends together to share extraordinary meals and fellowship at his homes, Ingleside on the Chesapeake Bay and a second home in Playa Garza, Costa Rica; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Walker will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his immediate family, Ellen, Kobe, and Hayes, and numerous other family members, friends, and colleagues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Thomas Drummond Cropper Walker, a distinguished leader in the aquaculture community on the Eastern Shore; 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 Drummond Cropper Walker as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

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