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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 265** 

Offered February 21, 2022

Celebrating the life of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Taylor, USAF, Ret.

Patron—Hodges

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Taylor, USAF, Ret., who served his country with honor and distinction for many years and was a beloved member of the Middlesex County community, died on January 17, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Thomas "Thom" Taylor graduated from Stranahan High School in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, earned degrees from Florida State University and The George Washington University, and received a commission in the United States Air Force in 1967; and

WHEREAS, Thom Taylor continued his military training throughout his years of active-duty service by attending Squadron Officer School and an Air Intelligence Officer course in 1967, Air Command and Staff College and the former Industrial College of Armed Forces in 1976, and the Air War College in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Thom Taylor served his country with courage and valor during the Vietnam War, earning several medals and ribbons for his tours of duty during the conflict, including the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with device and campaign medal; and

WHEREAS, after 23 years of continuous active-duty military service, Thom Taylor received a distinguished discharge from the United States Air Force in 1990 and then took a position with the Nuclear Proliferation Branch within the Foreign Nuclear Programs Division of the United States Department of Energy from 1991 to 2011; and

WHEREAS, for his efforts with the United States Department of Energy, Thom Taylor was recognized with the Distinguished Career Service Award from the department's Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence in July 2011; and

WHEREAS, Thom Taylor then served briefly as a national intelligence consultant for the firm Booz Allen Hamilton before retiring in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Thom Taylor was active in politics and was a valued strategist, advisor, and fundraiser for many local conservative candidates in Middlesex County; and

WHEREAS, Thom Taylor was guided throughout his life by his faith and maintained affiliations with both Episcopalian and Anglican churches; and

WHEREAS, Thom Taylor will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his loving wife of 14 years, Patti; his daughter, Amber, and her family; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Taylor, USAF, Ret., whose honor and integrity were an inspiration to all who knew him; 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 Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Taylor, USAF, Ret., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.