



1 enthusiastic political supporter; and

2 WHEREAS, Thomas Michael Porter's life was further enriched by  
3 the loving relationship he developed with his grandsons, Jacob  
4 Porter and Jared Porter, with whom he enjoyed hunting and other  
5 activities and with his daughter-in-law, Sharon Porter, with whom  
6 he especially enjoyed praying; and

7 WHEREAS, Thomas Michael Porter enjoyed a rich, exciting and  
8 varied life, which included a career as a NASCAR driver and  
9 employment in the railroad, mining and trucking industries, most  
10 recently operating his own trucking business; and

11 WHEREAS, during his lengthy career as a NASCAR driver covering  
12 the period from the 70's through the mid-1990's, Thomas Michael  
13 Porter competed first in the NASCAR Busch Grand National Division,  
14 where he was the original No. 3 in the black Chevy and won the pole  
15 position in its first race at Daytona in 1982, and later in the  
16 NASCAR Late Model Stock Division where he won over 100 victories  
17 racing late model stock cars; and

18 WHEREAS, The Honorable Thomas Michael Porter, was elected to  
19 the West Virginia House of Delegates in 2004, 2006 and 2008,  
20 serving on numerous committees, most recently as Minority Vice-  
21 Chair of both the Government Organization and Veterans Affairs  
22 committees; and

23 WHEREAS, the years that the Honorable Thomas Michael Porter  
24 served in the House of Delegates were characterized by his

1 dedication, honesty, directness and common sense approach to the  
2 issues, and while he would, from time to time, disagree vigorously  
3 with his fellow Delegates, his good-hearted nature and ever-present  
4 welcoming smile ensured that their friendship was never in  
5 jeopardy; and

6 WHEREAS, during his last term in the House of Delegates, Thomas  
7 Michael Porter demonstrated his commitment to his wife and to the  
8 House of Delegates by traveling to Charleston each morning to  
9 perform his legislative duties and returning to his home in  
10 Princeton each night to give comfort to his beloved wife Ruth while  
11 she was experiencing serious health problems; and

12 WHEREAS, Sadly, the Honorable Thomas Michael Porter, passed  
13 away Monday, September 27, 2010 at Charleston Area Medical Center  
14 in Charleston, W.Va., leaving behind a life of dedication and  
15 commitment to his family, community and state; therefore, be it

16 *Resolved by the House of Delegates:*

17 That the House of Delegates hereby memorializes the life of  
18 the Honorable Thomas Michael Porter, businessman, civic leader,  
19 U.S. Army veteran, successful NASCAR driver, member of the West  
20 Virginia House of Delegates and proud West Virginian; and, be it

21 *Further Resolved,* That the House of Delegates hereby extends  
22 its sincere sympathy at the passing of the Honorable Thomas Michael  
23 Porter; and, be it

24 *Further Resolved,* That the Clerk of the House of Delegates

1 forward a copy of this resolution to the family of the Honorable  
2 Thomas Michael Porter.