

Senate Resolution No. 1411

**BY:** Senator HARCKHAM

**MOURNING** the death of Jesse Beller, distinguished citizen, musician, and devoted member of his community

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and this great Empire State; and

**WHEREAS,** Jesse Beller of Croton-on-Hudson, New York, died on Saturday, December 27, 2025, at the age of 100; and

**WHEREAS,** Born on September 11, 1925, in Bronx, New York, Jesse Beller was a musical prodigy and began playing the piano at the age of six; and

**WHEREAS,** With a natural talent for music, Jesse Beller attended Music and Arts High School in New York City, and in his adolescence he fell in love with jazz and began playing professionally; and

**WHEREAS,** During World War II, Jesse Beller served and deployed in Germany, demonstrating his strength and commitment to the welfare of his Nation; and

**WHEREAS,** Jesse Beller distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

**WHEREAS,** Upon his return from the war, Jesse Beller attended New York University and decided to study math, eventually becoming a teacher, so he could successfully live a more traditional lifestyle than his musician peers; and

**WHEREAS,** Despite working professionally as a teacher, Jesse Beller remained engaged in the music world, and he never stopped playing in gigs on weeknights and weekends; he eventually retired early so he could play jazz professionally; and

**WHEREAS,** Jesse Beller married the love of his life, Barbara Jackson, and together they shared the pleasure of raising their two children, Kathleen and Jane, in Croton-on-Hudson, New York, where he has lived for 67 years; and

**WHEREAS,** When he was not playing music, teaching, or spending time with family, Jesse Beller could often be found volunteering at the local library; and

**WHEREAS,** Jesse Beller's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

**WHEREAS,** Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Jesse Beller leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Jesse Beller, distinguished citizen, musician, and devoted member of his community; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Jesse Beller.