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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 401

Offered January 14, 2003

*On the death of Gladys Quander Tancil.*

Patrons—Puller; Delegate: Amundson

WHEREAS, Gladys Quander Tancil, for 25 years one of the most popular and effective of Mount Vernon's historic interpreters, died on November 9, 2002; and

WHEREAS, a native of Washington, D.C., and a graduate of Armstrong High School in that city, Gladys Tancil was a career employee of the federal government, working in the Office of Emergency Management, the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, and the Navy Department; and

WHEREAS, Gladys Tancil came to Mount Vernon in 1975 and served with great distinction in a variety of roles for 25 years; and

WHEREAS, initially an assistant to the members of the Mount Vernon board, Gladys Tancil became Mount Vernon's first African-American interpreter and the first to play an integral role in Mount Vernon's educational message; and

WHEREAS, with innate grace, dignity, and strength, Gladys Tancil educated generations of young visitors to Mount Vernon about the role of slavery in the life of George Washington and the early history of the country; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Alfred Street Baptist Church for more than 70 years, Gladys Tancil served as an usher, Sunday school teacher, missionary worker, and trustee at the Children's Home of Virginia Baptists; and

WHEREAS, a life member of the NAACP, Gladys Tancil was a member of the Black Women United of Fairfax County, a member of the Mount Vernon Area AARP, and a founding member of the Society for the Preservation of Black Heritage in Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, a woman of strong character, high standards, quiet elegance, and strong faith, Gladys Tancil leaves an outstanding legacy of service to Mount Vernon, the Alfred Street Baptist Church, and the Fairfax County community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of an outstanding Virginian, Gladys Quander Tancil; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Gladys Quander Tancil as an expression of the respect in which her memory is held by the members of the General Assembly.

ENGROSSED

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