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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 385

Offered February 24, 2006

Celebrating the life of Caroline Byrd Keeney.

Patrons—Janis, Abbitt, Albo, Alexander, Amundson, Armstrong, Athey, BaCote, Barlow, Bell, Bowling, Brink, Bulova, Byron, Callahan, Caputo, Carrico, Cline, Cole, Cosgrove, Cox, Crockett-Stark, Dance, Dudley, Ebbin, Eisenberg, Englin, Fralin, Frederick, Gear, Gilbert, Griffith, Hall, Hamilton, Hargrove, Hogan, Howell, A.T., Howell, W.J., Hugo, Hull, Hurt, Iaquinto, Ingram, Joannou, Johnson, Jones, D.C., Jones, S.C., Kilgore, Landes, Lewis, Lingamfelter, Lohr, Marsden, Marshall, D.W., Marshall, R.G., May, McClellan, McEachin, McQuigg, Melvin, Miller, Moran, Morgan, Nixon, Nutter, O'Bannon, Oder, Orrock, Parrish, Peace, Phillips, Plum, Poisson, Purkey, Putney, Rapp, Reid, Rust, Saxman, Scott, E.T., Scott, J.M., Shannon, Sherwood, Shuler, Sickles, Spruill, Suit, Tata, Toscano, Tyler, Valentine, Waddell, Ward, Wardrup, Ware, O., Ware, R.L., Watts, Welch, Wittman and Wright

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney, native daughter, born November 24, 1985, passed away on August 7, 2005, at the tender age of 19; and

WHEREAS, a 2004 graduate of The Collegiate School in Henrico County, Caroline Byrd Keeney was a rising sophomore at Bridgewater College, where she was a political science and history major and a member of the Bridgewater College Equestrian team; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney was actively involved in numerous charitable organizations, among them CARITAS, which provides shelter and food for the homeless through Richmond area churches, and Angel Tree, which provides Christmas presents for needy children, and these organizations were the beneficiaries of her devotion, time, and considerable talents; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney lived courageously and with purpose and determination, bravely facing the recurrences of a life-threatening disease throughout her young life; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney played girls softball with the Tuckahoe Little League and during middle school, was a member of The Collegiate School's girls' softball and field hockey teams; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney was an accomplished equestrian and snow skier; enjoyed knitting; loved Lucy, her cat, which was a very special gift during her illness; and found great pleasure in making elaborate gingerbread houses with her mother each Christmas; and

WHEREAS, a member of All Saints Episcopal Church in Richmond, Caroline Byrd Keeney served as an acolyte and the Children's Chapel Assistant, and was a member of the church's youth group; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney's life was characterized by her amazing will to persevere and a strong work ethic, and even while undergoing aggressive medical treatment, she was committed to remaining current in school work, often allocating seven or more hours daily to homework; and

WHEREAS, the lives of hundreds have been touched and enriched by Caroline Byrd Keeney through her community service, and active participation in church, school, and college endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney's humor, laughter, and passion for living will always be remembered and family and friends will forever treasure her memory and precious moments spent with her; 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 Caroline Byrd Keeney, beloved daughter, sister, teammate, scholar, and friend; 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 Caroline Byrd Keeney as an expression of the respect in which her memory is held by the members of the General Assembly.