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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 403

Offered January 10, 2007

Prefiled January 10, 2007

Celebrating the life of Dolores P. Lescure.

Patron—Hanger

WHEREAS, Dolores P. Lescure, a respected civic leader and the distinguished former president of the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation, died on July 7, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Dolores P. Lescure was born on November 19, 1916, during President Woodrow Wilson's first term; she graduated from Madison College (now James Madison University) in 1938; and she became a successful reporter and feature writer for the *Richmond News Leader* and the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, working for legendary editor Douglas Southall Freeman; and

WHEREAS, Dolores Lescure interviewed notable public figures such as Amelia Earhart and Eleanor Roosevelt; and

WHEREAS, after moving with her husband and family to Staunton in 1957, Dolores Lescure served Mary Baldwin College as a teacher of journalism, director of information, and editor of publications for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Dolores and her late husband, Waller C. Lescure, were longtime supporters of the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace and its mission; and

WHEREAS, Dolores Lescure served as president of the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation from 1973 until 1993, helping to transform the local landmark into an organization of national prestige; and

WHEREAS, during her exemplary tenure, Dolores Lescure led the Foundation in the acquisition of the Effinger House in 1983, and the historic building was converted into a distinctive seven-gallery museum exhibiting a comprehensive collection portraying the family life of President Wilson and his outstanding service to the nation; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, Dolores Lescure was elected to the Staunton City Council, serving until 1987, with a term as mayor from 1983 to 1984 and as vice-mayor from 1986 to 1987; and

WHEREAS, Dolores Lescure went on to serve as the honorary chair of the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation, which was renamed the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library in 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees renamed the Woodrow Wilson Museum Building the Dolores Lescure Center to honor her and to recognize her many achievements as the longest standing president in the organization's history; and

WHEREAS, Dolores Lescure will be greatly missed by her four devoted children, three daughters and a son; her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews, and other loving family members; as well as her countless friends and admirers in the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of an outstanding public servant and fine Virginian, Dolores P. Lescure; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Dolores P. Lescure as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

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