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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 377

Offered February 8, 2008

Celebrating the life of Reema Samaha.

Patrons—Caputo, Alexander, Amundson, Armstrong, BaCote, Barlow, Bouchard, Bowling, Brink, Bulova, Dance, Ebbin, Eisenberg, Englin, Hall, Howell, A.T., Hugo, Hull, Joannou, Johnson, Jones, D.C., Lewis, Marsden, Mathieson, McClellan, Melvin, Miller, P.J., Moran, Morrissey, Nichols, Phillips, Plum, Poisson, Rust, Scott, J.M., Shannon, Shuler, Sickles, Spruill, Toscano, Tyler, Valentine, Vanderhye, Ward, Ware, O. and Watts

WHEREAS, Reema Samaha, age 18, a promising and vibrant young woman who was pursuing her education and her dreams at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, died tragically on April 16, 2007, on the university campus in Blacksburg; and

WHEREAS, a native of Centreville and a graduate of Westfield High School, Reema Samaha was the loving daughter of Joseph and Mona Samaha and the adoring sister of Omar and Randa; and

WHEREAS, Reema Samaha was a graceful and gifted dancer, who enjoyed life and loved so many things, including performing before an audience and expressing herself creatively and spending special activities and holidays with her many close friends and family; and

WHEREAS, as a member of Westfield High School's Contemporary Dance Ensemble, Reema Samaha won awards for her performances, including one for her role in *Fiddler on the Roof*, and she also performed with the dance company of the Northern Virginia Center for Dance and Theater; and

WHEREAS, a freshman at Virginia Tech, Reema Samaha was looking forward to majoring in urban planning with a minor in international relations, because she sincerely desired to help "solve the problems of the world"; and

WHEREAS, "a shy girl until you got to know her," Reema Samaha always made everyone feel accepted and content, and she would give a kind smile and a warm greeting to everyone she met; and

WHEREAS, Reema Samaha will be greatly missed by her family, numerous friends and admirers, and her fellow students and professors at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Commonwealth will remember Reema Samaha and the 31 other victims who died at the Virginia Tech campus on April 16, 2007, and in all of their memories "We will continue to invent the future through our blood and tears and through all our sadness. . . . We will prevail,"—N. Giovanni; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly note with great sadness the loss of a promising and gifted young woman and outstanding Virginian, Reema Samaha; 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 Reema Samaha as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

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