

2012 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 55

Offered January 11, 2012

Prefiled January 10, 2012

Celebrating the life of Edith M. Harrington.

Patron—Stolle

WHEREAS, Edith M. Harrington, a resident of Hampton Roads and a loving wife and friend, died on September 30, 2011; her devotion to a bedrock principle of American government—free and fair elections—was invaluable to the citizens of Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, Edith M. "Pat" Harrington's broad knowledge of Virginia election law was sought by many people, not only candidates for elected office, but also registrars and election officials throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, in her working life, Pat Harrington willingly shared her knowledge of the state's election law, striving to advance the process of fair elections; to that end, she was committed to ensuring that every citizen who desired to participate in the electoral process had the opportunity to do so; and

WHEREAS, Pat Harrington's 22 years of service to the citizens of Virginia Beach began when she accepted a temporary position with city government; before retiring she was General Registrar from 2005 until 2011; and

WHEREAS, in a state whose history intertwines with the nation's history, Pat Harrington worked in the shadow of the place where the English colonists first landed four centuries ago, bringing with them the rule of law which to this day guides this country and guided her work; and

WHEREAS, never straying far from Tidewater, Pat Harrington was raised in Norfolk, graduated from Longwood University in 1966, and spent 20 years with H&R Block, providing sound and caring advice to many people; and

WHEREAS, as part of her devotion to her extended family and many friends, Pat Harrington embraced the Christmas season as a most special time of year; she derived tremendous joy in making the holiday memorable for those around her; and

WHEREAS, a loving wife, mother, and grandmother, Pat Harrington possessed a generous spirit which she shared with those around her, especially her husband of 45 years, Frank, and her two sons, Michael and Matthew, and their families; 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 a widely admired public servant, Edith M. Harrington; 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 Edith M. Harrington as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

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