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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 840

Offered February 6, 2013

*Celebrating the life of Dr. Virginia R. Armstrong.*

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Patron—Hester

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WHEREAS, Dr. Virginia R. Armstrong, a devoted educator, an avid supporter of women, and a resident of Norfolk for over 50 years, died on December 30, 2012; and

WHEREAS, born in Ohio, Dr. Armstrong later earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Old Dominion University and a doctorate from The College of William and Mary; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Armstrong settled in Norfolk and began a 30-year career in the Norfolk Public Schools system as a social studies teacher and an assistant principal; an exemplary educator and mentor, she passed her love of education on to her students; and

WHEREAS, a passionate advocate for women's issues, Dr. Armstrong served in many organizations, including as the president and founding member of the Second District Women's Political Caucus, president of the League of Women Voters of South Hampton Roads, and a board member of the Virginia Women's Political Caucus; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Armstrong also served the community as a board member and the president of the YWCA of South Hampton Roads and as a board member at Saint Columba Ecumenical Ministries; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from the Norfolk Public Schools system in 2004, Dr. Armstrong followed her passion for teaching by opening her own educational consulting firm and working with the Virginia Department of Education to assess teachers' skills and improve teaching methods; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Armstrong also provided educational consulting to the Norfolk Collegiate School and taught graduate-level courses at the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished author, Dr. Armstrong wrote poetry, contributed to the editorial page of the newspaper, and compiled "The Things I Would Never Tell My Mother," a collection of essays on women's relationships with their mothers; and

WHEREAS, known for her positivity and witty sense of humor, Dr. Armstrong believed that laughter was the best medicine and attended an annual conference on humor; she was never afraid to try new things, learning to kayak and scuba dive in her 70s; and

WHEREAS, an active member of Second Presbyterian Church, Dr. Armstrong served on the board of directors and greatly enjoyed working in the Children's Church; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her daughter, Caroline, and husband, James, Dr. Armstrong is survived by her children, Margaret, Edward, and James, and their families; and many other family members and friends; 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 loyal educator, a hardworking advocate for women, and a cherished leader in the Norfolk community, Dr. Virginia R. Armstrong; 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 Dr. Virginia R. Armstrong as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

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