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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 258

Offered January 9, 2013

Prefiled November 29, 2012

*Celebrating the life of Audrey Louise McCray Wheaton.*

Patrons—Edwards and Smith; Delegate: Ware, O.

WHEREAS, Audrey Louise McCray Wheaton, a dynamic woman who touched the lives of countless individuals in the Roanoke area with her compassionate spirit and wise words, died on October 24, 2012; and

WHEREAS, a native of Roanoke, Audrey Wheaton graduated as valedictorian of the 1948 class of Lucy Addison High School and earned a bachelor's degree from Hampton Institute, now University, continuing her affiliation as a member of the Roanoke chapter of the school's alumni association; and

WHEREAS, after briefly working in the Washington, D.C. area, Audrey Wheaton returned to Roanoke and began a career in social work at the YWCA of Roanoke Valley that would last until her retirement in 1992; and

WHEREAS, over the years, countless young women benefited from the guidance and insight of Audrey Wheaton as they faced life's challenges, while those in the Y Teens group learned valuable lessons on becoming ladies; and

WHEREAS, driven by her love of helping others, Audrey Wheaton remained active in retirement, serving as the director of the Northwest Child Development Center and chaplain team leader at Roanoke's Rescue Mission Ministries and completing two terms on the Virginia Western Community College board; and

WHEREAS, Audrey Wheaton also supported family business ventures and volunteered with such community service organizations as the League of Older Americans, Phi Delta Kappa, Church Women United, Missionary Council of the Roanoke Valley and Vicinity, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, a well-known figure in the community, Audrey Wheaton penned her popular "Round Town" and "Take Five with Audrey" columns for *The Roanoke Tribune* for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong member of First Baptist Church-Gainsboro, Audrey Wheaton enjoyed fellowship and worship alongside other members and reached out to community members through work with various ministries over the years; and

WHEREAS, a caring and vibrant woman, Audrey Wheaton lived to help others and leaves behind a remarkable legacy of service to the Roanoke community; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her husband, Walter, with whom she loved to travel, Audrey Wheaton will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her children, Donna and Keith, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of an admired citizen of Roanoke, Audrey Louise McCray Wheaton; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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