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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 208

Offered January 24, 2014

Celebrating the life of the Honorable Eleanor Spence Dobson.

Patrons—Hope, Brink, Krupicka and Lopez; Senators: Ebbin, Favola and Howell

WHEREAS, the Honorable Eleanor Spence Dobson, a retired chief judge of the 17th Judicial District of Virginia, died on September 18, 2013; and

WHEREAS, a native of New York, Eleanor Dobson moved to Arlington County and graduated from Washington and Lee High School in 1944; and

WHEREAS, in 1948, Eleanor Dobson graduated from Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts, with a bachelor's degree; and

WHEREAS, Eleanor Dobson earned a law degree from The College of William and Mary in 1974, then returned to Arlington County to begin practicing law; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, Eleanor Dobson made history by becoming the first female judge in Arlington County; and

WHEREAS, Judge Dobson was appointed to the Arlington General District Court of the 17th Judicial District of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Judge Dobson presided with great fairness and wisdom, eventually becoming the chief judge; and

WHEREAS, Judge Dobson continued to diligently and faithfully serve the Commonwealth until her retirement in 1997; and

WHEREAS, a woman of great integrity, Judge Dobson served the Arlington County community and the Commonwealth with great distinction; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her loving husband of 47 years, William, Eleanor Dobson will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her children, David, Donald, Anne, and William, and their families, and many other family members, friends, and colleagues; 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 respected and admired public servant, the Honorable Eleanor Spence Dobson; 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 the Honorable Eleanor Spence Dobson as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

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