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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 768

Offered February 5, 2015

Celebrating the life of Betty Ostergren.

Patrons—Fowler and Peace; Senator: McDougle

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WHEREAS, Betty Ostergren, a passionate advocate for accountability in government and a beloved member of the Hanover County community, died on January 6, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a native of Florida, Betty Ostergren earned a bachelor's degree in 1972 and worked as an insurance claims supervisor for a major insurance company; and

WHEREAS, Betty Ostergren met her husband, John, while training to receive a pilot's license; she continued her career as an administrative assistant at her husband's engineering firm for 25 years; and

WHEREAS, Betty Ostergren was a tireless advocate for increased privacy online; she was best known as the founder and editor of The Virginia Watchdog, a website dedicated to raising awareness of how records containing personal information are posted online by government officials; and

WHEREAS, an honest and trustworthy champion for the protection of citizens' personal information, Betty Ostergren was admired for her courage and diligence in service to members of the public; and

WHEREAS, Betty Ostergren was mentioned in national publications and appeared on television and radio programs to draw attention to her cause, and she was a guest speaker at universities and civic groups in the region; and

WHEREAS, outside of her public life, Betty Ostergren was admired as a kind, generous, and compassionate woman who was a friend to many in the community; and

WHEREAS, Betty Ostergren will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her husband of 35 years, John, and numerous 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 Betty Ostergren, an advocate for responsible government and a community leader in Hanover County; 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 Betty Ostergren as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.