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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 89**

Offered January 13, 2016

Prefiled January 8, 2016

*Celebrating the life of Ernestine K. Middleton.*

Patrons—Stolle, Bagby, Bell, John J., Bell, Richard P., Bloxom, Boysko, Byron, Carr, Cole, Cox, Davis, Heretick, Herring, Hester, Hope, Keam, Kory, Krizek, Landes, Lindsey, Lingamfelter, Marshall, D.W., McQuinn, Morefield, Plum, Rasoul, Simon, Spruill, Taylor, Villanueva and Ware; Senators: Cosgrove, Deeds, DeSteph, Ebbin, Edwards, Howell, Norment, Ruff, Saslaw, Stuart, Wagner and Wexton

WHEREAS, Ernestine K. Middleton, a respected community leader in Virginia Beach and a librarian and dedicated supporter of the arts who was passionate about the pursuit of knowledge, died on October 30, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Princess Anne County and Virginia Beach, Ernestine Middleton graduated from what is now James Madison University and earned a master's degree from The College of William and Mary, while working as a librarian and raising her family; and

WHEREAS, Ernestine Middleton was a dignified, but assertive advocate for education and public libraries in the Commonwealth and had achieved an impressive institutional knowledge of Virginia's libraries; and

WHEREAS, at the time of her passing, Ernestine Middleton was chair of the Library of Virginia Board and vice chair of the Virginia Beach Public Library Board; a staunch supporter of the fine arts, she was also chair of the Virginia Beach Arts and Humanities Commission and the Virginia Symphony League; and

WHEREAS, Ernestine Middleton worked to strengthen and enhance the community as chair of the Virginia Beach Erosion Commission, president of the Thoroughgood Civic League, and a member and leader of many other organizations; and

WHEREAS, Ernestine Middleton lived her faith through her actions and enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as an active member of Bayside Presbyterian Church, where she served as an elder; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her husband, Bev, and one daughter, Gale, Ernestine Middleton was the proud matriarch of a large family; she will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her children, John, Barry, Shannon, Wayne, Beverly, and Terry; 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 Ernestine K. Middleton; 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 Ernestine K. Middleton as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

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