

2017 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 405

Offered February 14, 2017

Celebrating the life of Margaret Elizabeth Bailey Rackley.

Patrons—Fariss and Edmunds

WHEREAS, Margaret Elizabeth Bailey Rackley of Gladys, a retired educator who inspired countless students over the course of her 30-year career, died on February 7, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Elizabeth "Betty" Rackley graduated from Oneida Baptist Institute and earned degrees from Bluefield College, Carson-Newman College, and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, Betty Rackley served as the dean of women at Bluefield College, offered care and support to members of the community in need as a social worker, and inspired young people to become lifelong learners as a public school teacher; and

WHEREAS, Betty Rackley was active in many faith communities, along with her husband, Joel, who served as a pastor in Virginia and Kentucky; she often served as a pianist or choir director, bringing joy to each congregation through her love of music; and

WHEREAS, guided by her faith, Betty Rackley conducted mission work in Virginia, Kentucky, Africa, and Panama; she developed a deep affection for rural Panama and returned to the country every year for more than 15 years; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her husband, Joel, Betty Rackley will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her children, Joel, Dwight, Nora, and their families; her brothers, David and Robert, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Margaret Elizabeth Bailey Rackley; 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 Margaret Elizabeth Bailey Rackley as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for her memory.

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