

19102173D

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 845

Offered February 6, 2019

Celebrating the life of Yvonne Elizabeth Spain.

Patrons—Carr, Adams, D.M., Bagby, Bourne, McQuinn and Rodman; Senators: Dance, McClellan and Sturtevant

WHEREAS, Yvonne Elizabeth Spain, a highly admired civic leader who worked diligently to revitalize Southside Richmond and inspired others through her grace and humility, died on May 28, 2018; and

WHEREAS, a native of Richmond, Yvonne Spain grew up in the Randolph neighborhood then moved to Swansboro; she made her career as the longtime office manager for a local dentist, but found her true calling as an advocate for the community; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Spain served on the boards of the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority and the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority, but was best known for her work with the Richmond Neighborhood Teams, which facilitated communication between civic associations in different parts of the city; and

WHEREAS, as leader of a Swansboro civic association, Yvonne Spain worked with representatives from the Bellemeade, Blackwell, Oak Grove, Manchester, Forest Hill, and Woodland Heights neighborhoods to support initiatives that strengthened the entire Southside community; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Spain possessed an encyclopedic knowledge of Southside Richmond's neighborhoods, and many city officials relied on her accurate and honest information when crafting policy; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Spain supported the HOPE VI project that replaced public housing in Blackwell with new homes and apartments, advocated for new master plans for Hull Street and Manchester that sparked responsible growth, and organized Rebuilding Together volunteer projects to renovate and repair the homes of elderly residents in the area; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Spain offered her wise leadership to the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, the Better Housing Coalition, Homeward, Daily Planet Health Services, and many other civic and service groups; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Spain will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by numerous 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 Yvonne Elizabeth Spain, a pillar of the Southside Richmond community; 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 Yvonne Elizabeth Spain as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

HJ845