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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 46

Offered January 28, 2020

Celebrating the life of Sarah Leigh Jones.

Patron—Brewer

WHEREAS, Sarah Leigh Jones, tireless public servant, former legislative aide, and active member of the Holland and Whaleyville communities, died on June 13, 2019; and

WHEREAS, born in Whaleyville in 1925, Sarah Leigh Jones earned an associate's degree in business administration from Mary Washington College and worked for 25 years as a secretary at Holland High School, Forest Glen High School, and Nansemond-Suffolk Academy; and

WHEREAS, after retiring, Sarah Leigh Jones served for 22 years as an administrative aide in the General Assembly, serving under Senators Nolen, McFarland, Miller, Schewel, and Lambert, as well as the Clerk of the Senate, Susan Clarke Schaar; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Leigh Jones was a born leader and involved in many facets of her community; she was past president of the Holland Woman's Club where she was a member for over 50 years, past president of the Holland Community House Corporation, cochair of the Initiative Steering Committee for Improvements in Holland, charter member of the Southside District International Association of Administrative Professionals, and past president of the Pilot Club of Suffolk; and

WHEREAS, among her many accomplishments, Sarah Leigh Jones was the first woman to serve as chair of the board for the Suffolk Red Cross; she served on the boards of the Riddick's Folly House Museum and the Suffolk Tomorrow Committee, was a member of the Suffolk Red Hat Society, and for 10 years served as chaperone for the Suffolk Peanut Fest Queen and Court, where she was affectionately known as Miss Manners; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Leigh Jones lived her faith through her good work and actions; she served as the choir director and organist for Whaleyville Methodist Church before moving to Holland, then joined Holy Neck Christian Church where she served as choir director and organist, among many other church leadership roles over the years; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her husband, James, and her daughter, Victoria Leigh, Sarah Leigh Jones will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her children, Russell Turner and Carla Ann, 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 Sarah Leigh Jones, dedicated public servant and beloved member of the Holland and Whaleyville communities; 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 Sarah Leigh Jones as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for her memory.