

2020 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 547

Celebrating the life of Lorna M. Breen, M.D.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, August 28, 2020

WHEREAS, Lorna M. Breen, M.D., a highly admired medical professional who treated patients in one of the worst affected areas of New York City during the COVID-19 pandemic, died on April 26, 2020, in Charlottesville; and

WHEREAS, Lorna Breen followed in the footsteps of both her parents in the medical field, attending Cornell University before earning a master's degree in anatomy and a medical degree from the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine, then subsequently working as an emergency medical technician; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Lorna Breen joined the New York-Presbyterian medical system; she became the medical director of the emergency department at New York-Presbyterian Allen Hospital, a 200-bed hospital in Manhattan that, at one point during the pandemic, was treating 170 COVID-19 patients; and

WHEREAS, a respected and highly effective leader, Lorna Breen worked to acquire essential supplies and protective equipment and to mitigate the physical and emotional toll of the pandemic on her staff members; and

WHEREAS, Lorna Breen's supreme personal sacrifices helped ensure that COVID-19 cases at New York-Presbyterian Allen Hospital were managed as efficiently and effectively as possible, saving numerous lives; even after she tested positive for the virus, she was driven by her devotion to both her patients and her staff members to return to work shortly after recovering; and

WHEREAS, outside of her professional career, Lorna Breen brought joy to others through her magnetic personality, and she was a talented skier, salsa dancer, and cellist; she enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Lorna Breen will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by numerous family members, friends, and colleagues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Lorna M. Breen, M.D., a courageous, dedicated physician and a beloved daughter, sister, and friend; 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 Lorna M. Breen, M.D., as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for her memory.

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