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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 280

Offered January 13, 2021

Prefiled January 8, 2021

Commending the Honorable Kimberly J. Daniel.

Patrons—Surovell, Barker, Boysko, Ebbin, Favola, Howell, Marsden, Petersen and Saslaw; Delegates: Kory and Lopez

WHEREAS, the Honorable Kimberly J. Daniel retired as a judge of the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong Fairfax County resident, Kimberly Daniel grew up in Falls Church and holds degrees from the University of Iowa and what is now George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School; and

WHEREAS, Kimberly Daniel practiced law with her late father, Sidney, in the firm Daniel and Daniel from 1981 to 1998, then as a solo practitioner until 2001; she concentrated her practice mostly in litigation, as well as all aspects of juvenile law; and

WHEREAS, Kimberly Daniel provided mentorship and support to young people as part of the team that established the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program in Fairfax County, and she served as one of the county's first CASA trainers; and

WHEREAS, Kimberly Daniel also represented individuals with mental illnesses as a special justice for the civil commitment process from 1994 to 2001; she worked with stakeholders to evaluate and streamline civil commitments and created a practice program at the Antonin Scalia Law School for students to represent petitioners free of charge; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Kimberly Daniel was appointed as a judge of the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court of the 19th Judicial District of Virginia; in 2006, she founded the Fairfax County Drug Court and served as its presiding judge for five years; and

WHEREAS, Kimberly Daniel presided over the court with great fairness and wisdom and was elected by her peers as chief judge from 2008 to 2010, during which time she oversaw the relocation to the current courthouse; and

WHEREAS, Kimberly Daniel also served as a backup judge for the Veterans Treatment Court and was an active member of the Diversion First Program for offenders in need of mental health or substance abuse treatment; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career, Kimberly Daniel offered her leadership and expertise to local, state, and national peer organizations, and she authored numerous articles on a wide variety of legal topics; and

WHEREAS, Kimberly Daniel earned many awards and accolades for her professional achievements, including recognition for her pro bono work and her outstanding service as a guardian ad litem; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Honorable Kimberly J. Daniel on the occasion of her retirement as a judge of the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Honorable Kimberly J. Daniel as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her years of service to Fairfax County and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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