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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 178

Offered February 1, 2022

*Celebrating the life of Nicole DeMasters Bendily.*

Patron—Convirs-Fowler

WHEREAS, Nicole DeMasters Bendily, an esteemed law-enforcement officer who admirably served the citizens of Virginia Beach as a lieutenant with the Virginia Beach Sheriff's Office, died on October 18, 2021; and

WHEREAS, a native of Norfolk, Nicole Bendily graduated from First Colonial High School in Virginia Beach before earning a bachelor's degree in business administration from Columbia Southern University; and

WHEREAS, Nicole Bendily joined the Virginia Beach Sheriff's Office on July 1, 2002, and rose to the rank of lieutenant over her distinguished, 19-year career with the agency; and

WHEREAS, Nicole Bendily masterfully supported the operations of several divisions within the Virginia Beach Sheriff's Office during her career, including correctional operations, intake and release, the professional standards office, and ultimately the medical division; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to fostering the development of young officers, Nicole Bendily was an instructor certified by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services who taught ethics and other topics to recruits at academies in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Nicole Bendily played an instrumental role in the formation of the Virginia Beach Sheriff's Office's criminal intelligence unit and helped to investigate and prosecute the first Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act case in Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, committed to the well-being of the community she served, Nicole Bendily was a driving force behind the Virginia Beach Sheriff's Office's involvement with Special Olympics Virginia and other noteworthy causes; and

WHEREAS, a devoted wife and mother, Nicole's daughters MacKenzie and Samantha were the center of her world and her daily inspiration for serving and protecting others to the utmost of her ability; and

WHEREAS, Nicole Bendily will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by her loving husband of 27 years, Jesse; her children, MacKenzie and Samantha; her father, Gene; and numerous other 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 Nicole DeMasters Bendily, a respected law-enforcement officer and beloved member of the Virginia Beach community whose unbounded kindness and generosity touched countless lives; 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 Nicole DeMasters Bendily as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

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