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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 418

Offered February 22, 2023

Celebrating the life of Doris Brunette Harris Watson.

Patrons—Price, Mullin, Mundon King and Simonds

WHEREAS, Doris Brunette Harris Watson, a dedicated educator and vibrant community leader in Newport News, died on March 25, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Doris Watson grew up in Kenbridge, in Lunenburg County, and graduated with honors from the former Collis P. Huntington High School in Newport News; and

WHEREAS, Doris Watson earned a bachelor's degree in English with a minor in German from what was then Virginia State College, and a master's degree in elementary education from what was then the Hampton Institute; and

WHEREAS, Doris Watson pursued a career as a teacher and, over the course of 35 years, she gave students the tools and support to become lifelong learners at Newsome Park Elementary School, Carver Elementary School, Magruder Elementary School, and the former Dunbar-Erwin Elementary School; she also taught at Peninsula Business College; and

WHEREAS, Doris Watson proudly offered her leadership to the Newport News Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., for more than 56 years; and

WHEREAS, Doris Watson enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as a member of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Newport News, where she served in various leadership capacities over the course of five decades; and

WHEREAS, at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Doris Watson served as president of the Progressive Women's Club, St. Augustine's chapter of the Daughters of the King, and the Episcopal Church Women, and she participated in the church choir; she notably organized the church's Saturday lunch program for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her legacy of contributions to the congregation, the parish hall at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church was renamed in Doris Watson's honor; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her husband, Roger, Doris Watson will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her son, Roger, Jr., and his family, 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 Doris Brunette Harris Watson; 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 Doris Brunette Harris Watson as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

HR418