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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 266

Offered January 17, 2023

Commending Nancy A. Creech.

Patrons—DeSteph, Barker, Bell, Boysko, Cosgrove, Deeds, Dunnavant, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Hackworth, Hanger, Hashmi, Howell, Lewis, Locke, Marsden, Mason, McClellan, McPike, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Peake, Petersen, Pillion, Reeves, Rouse, Ruff, Saslaw, Spruill, Stanley, Stuart, Surovell and Vogel; Delegates: Anderson, Ballard, Bloxom, Brewer, Convirs-Fowler, Cordoza, Coyner, Davis, Durant, Greenhalgh, Kilgore, Knight, Leftwich, March, McNamara, O'Quinn, Runion, Tata, Taylor, Walker, Wampler, Ware, Wiley and Wyatt

WHEREAS, Nancy A. Creech has dedicated a lifetime of service to the City of Virginia Beach, the Virginia Beach Neptune Festival, and the arts community, which has immeasurably improved the quality of life for all residents across Hampton Roads; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Creech's passion, vision, and leadership of the Virginia Beach Neptune Festival over an extraordinary 48-year period led to exponential growth and enduring impact, such that the annual celebration of Virginia Beach heritage, tourism, arts, culture, and diversity is ranked among the top festivals in the southeastern United States, contributing more than \$23 million annually to the local economy; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Creech began working with the Virginia Beach Neptune Festival in 1974 and ultimately became both chief executive officer and president of the organization; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Creech has dedicated herself to supporting and successfully promoting arts and culture in the region through her involvement with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center, Virginia Musical Theatre, the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts, Zeiders American Dream Theater, the Foundation Board and the Executive Committee of the Governor's School for the Arts, and numerous other local arts agencies, programs, and commissions; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Creech forever changed and enhanced the Virginia Beach oceanfront through her involvement in the design, commissioning, and funding of the iconic King Neptune Statue dedicated in 2005 and the Virginia Beach Law Enforcement Memorial dedicated in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Creech has served as a member of the Virginia Beach City Council and the Virginia Beach Planning Commission; has been a member of countless boards and commissions, including the Navy League of Hampton Roads, Tidewater Health Care, Sentara Healthcare, the former Sovran Bank, Resource Bank, Seton House, Eastern Virginia Medical Authority, and Norfolk Airport Authority; was a founding member of Virginia Beach Vision, Inc.; and served as the first chairwoman of both the Virginia Beach Chamber of Commerce and the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Creech is a remarkable, positive, optimistic, and humble servant leader who serves as a role model to young leaders throughout the Commonwealth, modeling how to serve others with passion and achieve results; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Creech's tireless dedication, exemplary service, and noteworthy contributions to the promotion of the arts, culture, and civic engagement have immeasurably improved the quality of life in Virginia Beach and Hampton Roads; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Nancy A. Creech for her long and dedicated service to the Virginia Beach community and the Hampton Roads region; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Nancy A. Creech as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for her lifetime of manifold contributions to the residents of and visitors to Virginia Beach.

INTRODUCED

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