

23101098D

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 280

Offered January 24, 2023

Commending Doreen Gentzler.

Patrons—Surovell, Barker, Bell, Boysko, Ebbin, Favola, Howell, Marsden, McPike, Petersen and Saslaw;
Delegates: Bennett-Parker, Bulova, Delaney, Filler-Corn, Gooditis, Guzman, Helmer, Herring, Hope,
Kory, Krizek, LaRock, Lopez, Mullin, Murphy, Plum, Reid, Roem, Seibold, Sewell, Shin, Sickles,
Simon, Sullivan, Torian, Tran, Watts and Webert

WHEREAS, Doreen Gentzler, one of the most well-known and highly rated news anchors in the
Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Area, retired in November 2022, completing a distinguished career in
journalism of more than 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Doreen Gentzler spent part of her childhood in Arlington, then moved to South Carolina
with her family at a young age; and

WHEREAS, Doreen Gentzler graduated from the Henry W. Grady College of Journalism and Mass
Communication at the University of Georgia and began her career in journalism covering the Georgia
State Legislature for Georgia Public Broadcasting; and

WHEREAS, Doreen Gentzler anchored television news programs in Tennessee, North Carolina, Ohio,
and Pennsylvania before returning to the Washington, D.C. area as co-anchor of the weekday 6 p.m. and
11 p.m. editions of News4 on WRC-TV, also known as NBC4 Washington; and

WHEREAS, Doreen Gentzler served alongside local broadcasting legend Jim Vance, whom she had
watched on the same station in her youth; the two anchors proved to be a perfect pairing, and they
dominated local ratings during their 28 years together, often drawing more local primetime viewers than
national networks CNN, Fox News, and MSNBC combined; and

WHEREAS, Doreen Gentzler's "News 4 Your Health" segments won numerous awards for their
engaging coverage of medical breakthroughs and advances in health care; her reporting took her around
the world to Ecuador, Bosnia, and the Persian Gulf, where she reported from a United States Navy
hospital ship caring for American troops; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Doreen Gentzler became the lead reporter for a station-wide project on mental
health called "Changing Minds" that received local and national recognition for its in-depth reporting on
issues related to mental illness; in addition, she led many community outreach programs for the station,
including the NBC4 Health and Fitness Expo; and

WHEREAS, Doreen Gentzler and Jim Vance were one of the longest-tenured anchor teams in the
country at the time of his passing in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Doreen Gentzler remained a trusted figure in local news and helped maintain high
ratings for NBC4 Washington's evening and nightly news broadcasts with her new co-anchor, Jim
Handly; and

WHEREAS, over the course of her distinguished career, Doreen Gentzler earned several Emmy
awards for her writing, reporting, and anchoring; and

WHEREAS, after her well-earned retirement, Doreen Gentzler plans to travel and spend more time
with her beloved family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby
commend Doreen Gentzler on the occasion of her retirement as a news anchor with NBC4 Washington;
and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for
presentation to Doreen Gentzler as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her
contributions to journalism and her legacy of achievements.

INTRODUCED

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