

# 1995 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 466

Offered January 18, 1995

*Designating Kathryn Forrester Thro of Norfolk as Virginia's Poet Laureate for July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996.*

Patrons—Heilig; Senator: Walker

Referred to Committee on General Laws

WHEREAS, Virginia's Poet Laureate, Guy Carleton Drewry of Roanoke, died in 1991 at the age of 90; and

WHEREAS, Ruby Altizer Roberts of Christiansburg, a past Poet Laureate of the Commonwealth, was by House Joint Resolution No. 245 in 1992 designated Virginia's Poet Laureate Emeritus; and

WHEREAS, by House Joint Resolution No. 58 in 1994, Kathryn Forrester Thro, a renowned Norfolk poet and playwright, was named Virginia's 1994-1995 Poet Laureate; and

WHEREAS, a native of Washington, D.C., Kathryn Thro grew up in Alexandria and has lived in Norfolk for most of her adult life; and

WHEREAS, long active in the theater, Kathryn Thro has written and produced several plays, including Stereopticon, Tea with the Executioner, Sweet Temptations, and Quotas, that have been produced by Tidewater area theaters; and

WHEREAS, the focus of Kathryn Thro's poetry has been on Virginia's heritage, and through her poems she has shared her unique perceptions of Virginia history and Virginia's great historical figures; and

WHEREAS, Kathryn Thro's 1993 work, Inaugural, is a group of poems celebrating Virginia's patriots and includes "Our Sister's Siege at Petersburg," "Ascension," and the title poem, which ends "From charter/To a jeweled crown,/Virginia, first, foremost,/Renowned"; and

WHEREAS, Kathryn Thro's manifest talent, her love of Virginia's traditions and heritage, and her estimable abilities to communicate her vision make her ideally qualified to continue in the role of Virginia's Poet Laureate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby designate Kathryn Forrester Thro as Virginia's Poet Laureate for July 1, 1995, through June 30, 1996; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Kathryn Forrester Thro in recognition of her status as the 1995-1996 Poet Laureate of the Commonwealth.

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