

1995 SESSION

INTRODUCED

LD5418693

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 303

Offered January 19, 1995

On the death of Mary Melton Jones.

Patrons—Lambert, Benedetti, Lucas, Marsh, Maxwell, Miller, Y.B., Reasor and Stosch

WHEREAS, Mary Melton Jones, a pioneer educator in the Henrico County Public Schools, died on October 15, 1994; and

WHEREAS, a native of Henrico, Mary Jones was a graduate of Virginia Union University who later earned a master's degree from Columbia University and did graduate work at New York University and Rutgers University; and

WHEREAS, after teaching in Louisa, Hanover, and Suffolk Counties, Mary Jones returned to Henrico, where she taught at Virginia Randolph High School from 1934 until 1954, when she was named principal of Vandervall Elementary School, which was then all-black; and

WHEREAS, following desegregation of the Henrico Public Schools, Mary Jones was named assistant principal at Central Gardens Elementary School and, in 1969, became the first black woman to become a principal in the desegregated Henrico schools; and

WHEREAS, Mary Jones served as principal of the Central Gardens Elementary School until her retirement in 1974; and

WHEREAS, a former member of the Virginia and National Education Associations and the Henrico and Virginia Teachers Associations, Mary Melton Jones leaves a legacy of outstanding dedication and commitment to education and a pioneer spirit that led her to unprecedented accomplishment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of Mary Melton Jones, a wonderful Virginian who dedicated over 40 years of her life to the education of the youth of the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Mary Melton Jones as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

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