

2005 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 569

Celebrating the life of Iona Olivia Whitehead Adkins.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 14, 2005
Agreed to by the Senate, January 20, 2005

WHEREAS, Iona Olivia Whitehead Adkins of Charles City County, the first African-American woman to be elected clerk of a court of record since Reconstruction, died on October 14, 2004; and

WHEREAS, a native of Charles City County, Iona Adkins was educated in the Charles City County public schools; and

WHEREAS, an active and devoted member of St. John Baptist Church for more than 45 years, Iona Adkins served as clerk of the church and as a member of the senior choir; and

WHEREAS, in 1967 Iona Adkins made history when she was elected Circuit Court Clerk for Charles City County, the first African-American woman in the country to be elected clerk of a court of record since Reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, Iona Adkins served as Clerk of the Charles City County Circuit Court with great diligence and distinction for 21 years before her retirement in 1988; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her professional duties, Iona Adkins found time to serve as a life member of the Charles City NAACP and as a member of the Charles City Civic League, the Charles City PTA, and the Charles City Democratic Committee; and

WHEREAS, Iona Adkins will be missed by her family, by the parishioners of St. John Baptist Church, and by her many friends, colleagues, and admirers in the Charles City County community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby mourn the passing of a fine Virginian, Iona Olivia Whitehead Adkins; 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 Iona Olivia Whitehead Adkins as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

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