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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 178

Offered January 25, 2006

*Celebrating the life of Caroline Byrd Keeney.*

Patrons—Lambert, Marsh, Bell, Blevins, Chichester, Colgan, Cuccinelli, Deeds, Devolites Davis, Edwards, Hanger, Hawkins, Houck, Howell, Locke, Lucas, Martin, McDougale, Miller, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, O'Brien, Potts, Puckett, Puller, Quayle, Rerras, Reynolds, Ruff, Saslaw, Stolle, Stosch, Ticer, Wagner, Wampler, Watkins, Whipple and Williams

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney, native daughter, born on November 24, 1985, passed away on August 7, 2005, at the tender age of 19; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney graduated from the Collegiate School in Henrico County in 2004, and was a rising sophomore at Bridgewater College, where she was a political science and history major and a member of the Bridgewater College Equestrian team; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney was actively involved in numerous charitable organizations, among them CARITAS, which provides shelter and food for the homeless through Richmond area churches, and Angel Tree, which provides Christmas presents for needy children; and these organizations were the beneficiaries of her devotion, time, and considerable talents; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney lived courageously and with purpose and determination, bravely facing the recurrences of a life-threatening disease throughout her young life; and

WHEREAS, she played girls' softball with the Tuckahoe Little League, and during middle school, she was a member of the Collegiate School's girls' softball and field hockey teams; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney was an accomplished equestrian and snow skier; enjoyed knitting; loved Lucy, her cat, which was a very special gift during her illness; and found great pleasure in making elaborate gingerbread houses with her mother each Christmas; and

WHEREAS, a member of All Saints Episcopal Church in Richmond, she served as an acolyte and the Children's Chapel Assistant, and was a member of the church's youth group; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Byrd Keeney's life was characterized by her amazing will to persevere and a strong work ethic, and even while undergoing aggressive medical treatment, she was committed to remaining current in school-work, often allocating seven or more hours daily to homework; and

WHEREAS, the lives of hundreds have been touched and enriched by Caroline Byrd Keeney through her community service and active participation in church, school, and college endeavors; and

WHEREAS, her humor, laughter, and passion for living will always be remembered, and family and friends will forever treasure her memory and precious moments spent with her; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Caroline Byrd Keeney, beloved daughter, sister, teammate, scholar, and friend; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Caroline Byrd Keeney as an expression of the respect in which her memory is held by the members of the General Assembly.

INTRODUCED

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