

2009 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 948

Offered February 19, 2009

Celebrating the life of Shirley Lee Turner Williams.

Patron—Tyler

WHEREAS, Shirley Lee Turner Williams of the small community of Courtland, a loving wife, mother, and community volunteer, died on September 23, 2008; and

WHEREAS, a native of Norfolk, Shirley Williams was born on June 13, 1932; her faith, the hallmark of her life, developed at an early age; she was a longtime active member of Bryants Baptist Church in Capron, Virginia, and later in life, a member of New St. Mount Holiness Church of Franklin, where she continued to worship and grow spiritually; and

WHEREAS, devoted to her family, Shirley Williams married the love of her life, Samuel Williams, and together they raised a wonderful family of five daughters and two sons and opened their home for over 45 years to 11 foster children; and

WHEREAS, a hard-working and dedicated employee, Shirley Williams served the students of Southampton County Public Schools for 39 years as both a cafeteria worker and bus driver; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Williams battled breast cancer and as a survivor became an inspiration to others; she was instrumental in the annual Relay for Life initiative sponsored by the American Cancer Society in the Franklin/Southampton County area; and

WHEREAS, during her lifetime, Shirley Williams received many awards and accolades as an outstanding foster parent, employee, and citizen in the community, but her greatest legacy comes from the love she gave to all around her and the faith she practiced in her everyday life; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Williams will be fondly remembered for her kind and generous nature and will be greatly missed by her loving husband of 58 years, Samuel; her children, Cheryl, Karen, Dianne, Latorial, Essense, Ronald, and John; other sons raised in her home, Barrett, James, Brian, Martin, Tavares, Matthew, Frederick, Roderick, and Ivan; and many friends and admirers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of a fine community volunteer and outstanding Virginian, Shirley Lee Turner Williams; 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 Shirley Lee Turner Williams as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

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