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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 172

Offered February 28, 2014

Celebrating the life of Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman.

Patron—Petersen

WHEREAS, Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman, a longtime resident and Mayor of the Town of Vienna, was reared in Fort Hays, Kansas, and passed away on February 23, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman, an admired and deeply dedicated public servant, ably served the Town of Vienna for over 17 years and was the director of the Vienna Community Center preschool program for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman was first appointed to the Vienna Town Council in 1996 to fill her late husband's unexpired term and was subsequently elected to two additional terms; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman was elected mayor of the Town of Vienna and won six successive full terms, most recently in 2012; a wise and active leader, she guided the government of the Town of Vienna for the past 14 years and contributed to the town's continuing growth and success; and

WHEREAS, as mayor, Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman created events to foster more public participation, including a volunteer-recognition ceremony, a holiday reception, and the "Vienna at Your Service" speaker series, in which top town officials describe the activities of their departments; delighted in speaking to students at schools and always recognized Boy Scouts who were visiting the Town Council chambers to earn various merit badges; and was proudest of the Town Council's construction of the Vienna Town Green, a venue for live concerts, sports, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, prior to assuming elected office, Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman served as the former chairwoman of the Community Enhancement Commission and represented the residents of the Town of Vienna on the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, the Town Association of Northern Virginia, the Environmental Policy Steering Committee, the Tysons Partnership, and the Greater Tysons Coordinating Committee; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to enhancing the infrastructure of Tysons Corner, Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman supported improvements to walkways, bicycle facilities, trails, and intersections in and around the neighborhood to ensure that local residents have safe, convenient access to work, shopping, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman, an exemplar of the professionalism and dedication shown by elected officials throughout the Commonwealth, devoted much of her life working to better the Vienna community and was a member of numerous civic and service organizations, such as the Rotary Club of Vienna, Historic Vienna, Inc., and the Patrick Henry Library; and

WHEREAS, Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman was honored as an exceptional public servant with many awards and accolades, including the Vienna Toastmasters Communication and Leadership Award in 1997 and the *Vienna Times* and Vienna Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year award and Rotary Service Above Self award in 1999; and

WHEREAS, Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman leaves a legacy of noteworthy public service, and although her family, colleagues, and the people of the Town of Vienna mourn her loss, memories of her dedication, strength, and love will never be forgotten; 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 Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman, former mayor of the Town of Vienna; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Madena Jane Chittenden Seeman, former mayor of the Town of Vienna, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory and admiration for her service to the Town of Vienna and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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