

18103063D

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 199

Offered February 27, 2018

*Celebrating the life of Louise Ann Hutchinson.*

Patron—Mason

WHEREAS, Louise Ann Hutchinson, a Williamsburg resident who broke down barriers as an adventurous news reporter with the *Chicago Tribune*, died on March 29, 2017; and

WHEREAS, born and raised in Chicago, Louise Hutchinson attended Schurz High School and then studied at Blackburn College in Illinois before earning a bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa; and

WHEREAS, Louise Hutchinson began her journalism career at radio stations in Illinois and Washington, D.C.; after a stint at a weekly newspaper in northwest Chicago, she joined the *Chicago Tribune* as a reporter in 1952; and

WHEREAS, Louise Hutchinson initially covered the neighborhood news beat for the *Chicago Tribune*, but her exceptional interviewing and reporting skills soon saw her promoted to more high-profile stories; she wrote about Jacqueline Kennedy in the wake of President John F. Kennedy's assassination, covered eight national political conventions, and followed President Richard Nixon on his 1972 trip to Moscow; and

WHEREAS, during an era when women reporters were often confined to light news and local coverage, Louise Hutchinson sought out stories that took her on adventures around the globe; for a 1967 report, she dove to the bottom of the ocean in a United States Navy submersible; in 1971, she traveled to Antarctica to cover its scientific research community, and while there, became the first woman in history to spend a night at the South Pole; and

WHEREAS, Louise Hutchinson received numerous awards and professional honors during her reporting career, including the *Chicago Tribune's* Edward Scott Beck Award, an Associated Press award, and an honorary doctorate from Blackburn College; between 1970 and 1971, she was president of the Women's National Press Club, which renamed itself the Washington Press Club during her tenure; and

WHEREAS, Louise Hutchinson spent 22 years as a *Chicago Tribune* reporter before leaving the paper in 1973; she then worked as a public information officer for the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division and as press secretary to U.S. Congressman Robert McClory; and

WHEREAS, in her later career, Louise Hutchinson worked for a variety of nonprofit foundations; between 1985 and 1991, she served as director of public information for the National Association of Children's Hospitals in Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, after settling in Williamsburg in 1993, Louise Hutchinson remained active in several civic organizations, including the League of Women Voters; and

WHEREAS, Louise Hutchinson will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by numerous family members, friends, and former colleagues; 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 Louise Ann Hutchinson, a talented and pioneering journalist; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

SI199