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**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 242**

Offered January 22, 2021

*Celebrating the life of Gabrielle Elizabeth Aldea.*

Patrons—Askew, Convirs-Fowler, Guy and Jones

WHEREAS, Gabrielle Elizabeth Aldea, an accomplished community activist and health and social justice advocate who was an active and beloved member of the Hampton Roads community, died on December 28, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Gabrielle "Gabby" Elizabeth Aldea was drawn to activism at a young age, inspired by personal challenges to campaign tirelessly in support of others who had been disadvantaged or dispossessed; and

WHEREAS, Gabby Aldea attended or organized countless rallies, marches, fundraising events, city council meetings, and sessions of the General Assembly to bring greater attention to the causes that were important to her; and

WHEREAS, Gabby Aldea was indefatigable in her drive to create a healthier and more just world; over the years, she gave generously of her time and talents to various organizations, including Heroes for Healthcare, Indivisible757, the Center for Popular Democracy, the Virginia Social Action Task Force of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Asian American Alliance, and Operation Smile; and

WHEREAS, with unwavering faith in the power of her voice, Gabby Aldea invested great energy and passion into several of the major political movements of her day, including Black Lives Matter, Lights for Liberty, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and demonstrations in support of the Equal Rights Amendment; and

WHEREAS, a champion of democracy and the responsibilities it entails, Gabby Aldea worked unceasingly to register voters, volunteer at the polls, and campaign in support of policymakers on the local, state, and national level as a canvasser and field organizer; and

WHEREAS, several leaders that Gabby Aldea worked with have released statements honoring her life, including United States Senator Mark R. Warner and Virginia Beach City Councilwoman Sabrina Wooten; and

WHEREAS, beyond her political advocacy, Gabby Aldea was a gifted and prolific writer and a self-taught musician, always seeking new outlets for her brimming creativity and joy; and

WHEREAS, Gabby Aldea will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by her mother, Chrischa; her grandparents, Randy and Marion; her aunt, Olivia; her uncle, Garrett; her cousins, Bruin, Calliope, and Mina; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Gabrielle Elizabeth Aldea, an inspirational community activist whose advocacy for civil rights, social justice, and health care left a profound and lasting impression on many lives; 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 Gabrielle Elizabeth Aldea as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

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