

2021 SPECIAL SESSION II

ENROLLED

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 737

Celebrating the life of Adele C. Johnson.

Agreed to by the Senate, August 5, 2021

WHEREAS, Adele C. Johnson, esteemed executive director of the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia and a beloved member of the Richmond community, died on April 25, 2021; and

WHEREAS, affectionately known by friends and family as "AJ," Adele Johnson was born in Sea Bright, New Jersey, and moved to Richmond upon enrolling at Virginia Commonwealth University, where she earned a degree in urban planning; and

WHEREAS, Adele Johnson's illustrious career in the nonprofit sector began at the Virginia Minority Supplier Development Council, now the Carolinas-Virginia Minority Supplier Development Council, which she served as president for 13 years; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Adele Johnson became the community relations director for Capital One, amassing valuable experience while overseeing the company's grants to various nonprofit organizations and charities; and

WHEREAS, Adele Johnson subsequently assumed the position of director of the Richmond Public Schools Education Foundation in 2009, leading the organization's fundraising efforts while managing administrative duties and the development of myriad programs that benefited innumerable teachers and students of all ages; and

WHEREAS, Adele Johnson led a consulting firm, The Inclusive Edge, to help nonprofits better fulfill their missions and in 2017 joined the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia as its interim executive director, officially becoming the institution's executive director shortly thereafter; and

WHEREAS, Adele Johnson's tenure at the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia was defined by her compelling vision for the future of the institution, her passionate energy for collaboration and engagement with the local museum community, and her deep commitment to championing the untold stories of Black lives and communities in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Adele Johnson will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by her loving husband of over 25 years, Bill; her children, Eric and Lisa, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of Virginia hereby note with great sadness the loss of Adele C. Johnson, executive director of the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia, whose exemplary kindness, generosity, and grace inspired countless lives; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Adele C. Johnson as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect for her memory.

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