## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 277**

Celebrating the life of Mary Francis Andrews Melton.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 28, 2022 Agreed to by the Senate, March 3, 2022

WHEREAS, Mary Francis Andrews Melton, a highly admired artist and vibrant member of the Richmond community, died on January 17, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Mary Melton attended Virginia Commonwealth University and studied art through programs and workshops in the Richmond area and across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Mary Melton created beautiful works in various mediums, including oil on canvas, watercolor, encaustic, and printmaking; her pieces have been shown in prominent galleries throughout the Commonwealth and many are included in private collections; and

WHEREAS, Mary Melton worked with the Richmond Metropolitan Artists Association and taught private lessons at the Westminster Canterbury retirement community in Richmond; she offered her expertise to the Ginter Park Garden Club, developing floral arrangements for monthly meetings; and

WHEREAS, Mary Melton celebrated her Armenian heritage throughout her life and used her artistic talents to raise awareness of the Armenian Genocide in 1915; and

WHEREAS, Mary Melton will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her husband of 66 years, Nelson; her children, David, Billy, Timothy, Jennifer, and Stephen, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Mary Francis Andrews Melton; 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 Mary Francis Andrews Melton as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.