

## 2023 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 134

Offered February 15, 2023

*Celebrating the life of Brenda Ellen Cole Horton.*

Patron—Hackworth

WHEREAS, Brenda Ellen Cole Horton, an esteemed educator and beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and member of the Bristol community, died on January 16, 2023; and

WHEREAS, a native of Richlands, Brenda Horton graduated from the former Whitewood High School in 1968 before earning a degree from East Tennessee State University in 1971; and

WHEREAS, for more than 50 years, Brenda Horton cultivated young minds as an educator at various schools, including local elementary schools, Richlands Tabernacle Christian Academy, and Faith Academy in Cedar Bluff; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Horton devoted 46 years of her career as a Christian school principal and educator, working tirelessly without pay to foster the academic, emotional, and social well-being of her students; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Horton was a proud mother who raised her children with great love and affection, whether tending to them while sick, teaching them to read, or guiding them along their spiritual journeys; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Horton effused kindness and compassion wherever she went and demonstrated genuine concern for the members of her community, regularly offering comfort to those who were sick, elderly, or grieving; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Horton was an excellent cook and a gracious host, welcoming countless preachers, family members, and passersby to join her at her table over the years; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Horton was a versatile and accomplished musician, playing any number of gospel songs on the piano, organ, clarinet, and accordion, her preferred instrument; and

WHEREAS, guided throughout her life by her faith, Brenda Horton took great joy in supporting the work of her husband, the Reverend David S. Horton, singing gospel songs, both solo and in the choir, and teaching Sunday school; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Horton will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by her loving husband of 54 years, David; her children, Tonya, Hannah, and David, 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 Brenda Ellen Cole Horton, a cherished member of the Bristol community whose servant's heart was an inspiration to all who knew her; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Brenda Ellen Cole Horton as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect for her memory.

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