

1995 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 691

On the death of Charlotte Milton Caldwell Giesen.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 4, 1995
Agreed to by the Senate, February 9, 1995

WHEREAS, Charlotte Milton Caldwell Giesen, a pioneering member of the General Assembly and the Radford City Council, died on January 28, 1995; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Radford State Teachers College and a member of the Radford College Board of Visitors from 1970 to 1978, Charlotte Giesen became the first woman elected to the Radford City Council in 1954; and

WHEREAS, in 1957, Charlotte Giesen was elected to the House of Delegates, representing the City of Radford and Montgomery County; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte Giesen, won reelection in 1959, running on a platform that included reinstituting compulsory education, requiring inoculations against polio, imposing mandatory jail sentences on drunk drivers, and requiring government to conduct its business in open meetings; and

WHEREAS, many of Charlotte Giesen's public positions were considered progressive at the time, including her opposition to Virginia's policy of "massive resistance" and her championing of the role of women in politics; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, Charlotte Giesen returned to the Radford City Council, serving with distinction from 1962 to 1966; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte Giesen was also the women's editor for the Radford News Journal for many years and was the editor of the original Montgomery News Messenger; and

WHEREAS, among her many honors, Charlotte Giesen was voted Radford Woman of the Year by the Business and Professional Women's Association and was elected Outstanding Citizen in 1960 by the Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

WHEREAS, in an extraordinarily full and active life, Charlotte Giesen served her constituents with vigor and integrity and played a pioneering role in the political history of Radford and the Commonwealth, and leaves a lasting legacy of service, dedication, and accomplishment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly note with sadness the passing of Charlotte Milton Caldwell Giesen; 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 Charlotte Giesen as an expression of the high regard in which her memory is held by the members of the General Assembly and the citizens of Virginia.

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