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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 331

Offered February 16, 1996

On the death of Ada Belch Petty.

Patrons—Diamonstein, Crittenden, Crouch, Hall and Hamilton

Consent to introduce

WHEREAS, Ada Belch Petty, a prominent Newport News community leader and former Peninsula Woman of the Year, died on January 22, 1996; and

WHEREAS, a native of the Peninsula, Ada Petty was educated at Lynchburg College and Columbia University and taught in the Warwick County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Ada Petty also served on the Warwick County School Board for over 10 years until the consolidation of Warwick County and the City of Newport News; and

WHEREAS, a former president of the Hilton Village Woman's Club, Ada Petty was selected as one of the honorary board members of the Newport News YWCA, an organization she also served as chairman of the building fund; and

WHEREAS, Ada Petty was a charter member of Hilton Christian Church, in which she remained active for over 40 years, and also served as president of the Christian Woman's Fellowship and as vice president of the United Council of Church Women; and

WHEREAS, a woman of varied interests, Ada Petty, a member of many choirs and glee clubs in the area, was a founding member of the Newport News Operatic Society and took part in many of the society's early productions; and

WHEREAS, named Peninsula Woman of the Year in 1957, Ada Petty was named an honorary trustee for life by her alma mater, Lynchburg College, which also awarded her the Thomas Gibson Hobbs Memorial Award in honor of her alumni leadership; and

WHEREAS, Ada Belch Petty leaves an enviable legacy of achievement in a variety of fields, of dedication to education, and of service to her community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the loss of a fine Virginian, Ada Belch Petty; 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 Ada Belch Petty as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.