

2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

24200175D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 716

Offered June 25, 2024

3 Commemorating the life and legacy of Sallie Chew Baker.

5 Patron—Orrock

6 WHEREAS, Sallie Chew Baker, an accomplished businesswoman and educator and esteemed member of
7 the Caroline County community, died on December 6, 1978, at the age of 92; and

8 WHEREAS, alongside her husband, Dansberry Baker, Sallie Chew Baker raised six children, many of
9 whom continued to reside in the Caroline County area in their later years; and

10 WHEREAS, known affectionately by friends and family members as “Dear Mama,” Sallie Chew Baker’s
11 home was a focal point of her community and provided a safe and nurturing environment in which local
12 children could thrive; and

13 WHEREAS, Sallie Chew Baker played an integral role in preserving the land and building in the
14 Woodford community of Caroline County that originally housed the historic Guinea one-room schoolhouse
15 where the area’s Black students were educated until integration in the late 1950s; and

16 WHEREAS, after she effectively advocated for her cause and raised money through a number of
17 fundraisers to buy the property, the Caroline County School Board formally transferred the deed to Sallie
18 Chew Baker on July 24, 1959; and

19 WHEREAS, Sallie Chew Baker briefly used the schoolhouse to establish an Ever Ready Club for local
20 children before donating the land for the creation of the new Macedonia Baptist Church in Woodford in 1961;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, on Easter Sunday in 1963, Sallie Chew Baker presided over the ribbon cutting ceremony that
23 marked the official opening of Macedonia Baptist Church, which has since served as the spiritual home for
24 numerous congregants and families; and

25 WHEREAS, on May 16, 2022, a road marker detailing the history of the Guinea one-room schoolhouse
26 was unveiled in Caroline County, which will serve to honor and preserve the legacy of Sallie Chew Baker for
27 the benefit of future generations; now, therefore, be it

28 RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the life and legacy of Sallie Chew Baker hereby be
29 commemorated to acknowledge the profound and meaningful impact she had on the Caroline County
30 community; and, be it

31 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for
32 presentation to the family of Sallie Chew Baker as an expression of the House of Delegates’ admiration for
33 her contributions to Caroline County and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

HR716