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## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 631

Offered July 15, 2024

*Celebrating the life of Kimberly Drew Wright.*

Patron—

WHEREAS, Kimberly Drew Wright, a talented author and entrepreneur, a determined advocate for social justice who inspired thousands of other women to become leaders in their communities, and a beloved wife and mother in Chesterfield, died on July 5, 2024; and

WHEREAS, a native of Hampton, Kimberly “Kim” Wright moved to North Carolina with her family at a young age and graduated from Northwest Guilford High School; she continued her education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, earning a bachelor's degree in journalism; and

WHEREAS, Kim Wright worked in communications and marketing for several years and authored numerous pieces as a contributor for a variety of journals and publications; she ultimately founded and served as chief executive officer of Quick Wit Lit, LLC, a creative fiction and poetry publishing company; and

WHEREAS, Kim Wright's critically acclaimed collection of short stories, flash fiction, and prose poetry, The Strangeness of Men, was selected as a USA Best Book Awards finalist in 2015 and received an Independent Publisher Book Awards Silver Medal in 2016; and

WHEREAS, after the 2016 United States presidential election, Kim Wright worked with like-minded friends to form Liberal Women of Chesterfield County & Beyond (LWCC), which has since inspired and empowered thousands of women throughout Chesterfield County, the Commonwealth, and the nation to become more engaged in their communities and in every level of government; and

WHEREAS, Kim Wright and LWCC played a significant role in local, state, and national elections by encouraging more women in Chesterfield County to serve as volunteers, activists, and candidates for elected office; she also supported the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment in 2020, with Virginia becoming the 38th state to ratify the amendment; and

WHEREAS, among many awards and accolades, Kim Wright received the 2019 Newsmaker of the Year award from Virginia Professional Communicators for her achievements as the leader of LWCC and for sharing her vision, story, and impact with local, national, and international media; and

WHEREAS, based on her personal experiences with Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS), Kim Wright also became an outspoken advocate for recognition, research, and treatment of this rare but potentially devastating condition, and she was a fierce champion for children affected by PANS and their families; and

WHEREAS, Kim Wright was most proud of her role as a caring wife and mother, and she will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her husband, Wen; her children, Ian, Elliott, and Kaelin; her parents, Walter and Billie; 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 Kimberly Drew Wright, a vibrant member of the Chesterfield community who touched countless lives through her passion for advocacy; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Kimberly Drew Wright as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

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