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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 630

Offered February 11, 2025

Celebrating the life of Bonnie Sue Neighbour.

Patrons—Hope, Carr, Clark, Cole, Cousins, Green, Jones, Keys-Gamarra, Krizek, Lopez, Martinez, McClure, McQuinn, Owen, Rasoul, Sickles, Ware, Watts and Willett; Senators: Deeds, Diggs, Ebbin, Rouse, Salim and Williams Graves

WHEREAS, Bonnie Sue Neighbour, a former educator and talented musician who touched many lives in the Richmond region through her compassion and determined advocacy, died on November 18, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Bonnie Neighbour spent her youth between Illinois and New Jersey, gaining an early appreciation for the adventure of travel; during her high school years, she proudly used her own money to fund a trip to Europe, subsequently visited Iran while attending college, and notched many other destinations in the United States and around the world in her lifetime; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Iowa State University with a degree in music, Bonnie Neighbour taught band in Nebraska for a time, then ultimately settled in Richmond, where she was an active member of the community for three decades; and

WHEREAS, Bonnie Neighbour attended Richmond's Union Presbyterian Seminary and was a respected leader in various church congregations, most recently at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church, where she participated in many social justice and sustainability programs; and

WHEREAS, Bonnie Neighbour was a passionate advocate for people with disabilities and a champion for expanded mental health services; she combined her own experiences with mental health and her background as an educator to empower others in their personal journeys to recovery and wellness; and

WHEREAS, Bonnie Neighbour maintained her lifelong love of music and sang with the Richmond Allied Voices Treble Chorus for many years; and

WHEREAS, Bonnie Neighbour will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her wife of nearly 13 years, Mickie; her daughters, Jen and Rebecca, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Bonnie Sue Neighbour, a teacher, musician, and community leader in Richmond; 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 Bonnie Sue Neighbour as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.