

2025 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 645

Commending Jane Parke Batten.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 17, 2025

WHEREAS, Jane Parke Batten has demonstrated exceptional dedication to philanthropy and community service, significantly enhancing the lives of countless individuals through her generous contributions and volunteer efforts; and

WHEREAS, Jane Parke Batten, alongside her late husband Frank Batten, has supported numerous educational initiatives fostering leadership and academic excellence, such as founding the Batten Leadership Institute at Hollins University, supporting the Batten Honors College at Virginia Wesleyan University and the University of Virginia's Curry School of Education and Human Development, and establishing The College of William & Mary's Batten School of Coastal & Marine Sciences at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, now a global leader in coastal and marine science education and research; and

WHEREAS, Jane Parke Batten has been a steadfast supporter of early childhood educational access and quality, serving on the board of E3: Elevate Early Education and as co-chair of the Board of Directors for St. Patrick Catholic School, where she facilitated the school's mission to educate and nurture the whole child; and

WHEREAS, Jane Parke Batten has played a pivotal role in the development of community resources, such as the Slover Library in Norfolk, ensuring access to knowledge and learning for all; and

WHEREAS, Jane Parke Batten's commitment to civic giving and volunteerism has earned her numerous accolades, including the Hugo Owens Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Award from Old Dominion University, recognizing her long-standing service to disadvantaged communities; and

WHEREAS, Jane Parke Batten has been a significant supporter of environmental conservation efforts, particularly through her involvement with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, which is dedicated to preserving the Chesapeake Bay through education, advocacy, litigation, and restoration, and her support of the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center, which connects people to the marine environment to inspire a more sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, Jane Parke Batten has contributed to the establishment and success of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Brock Environmental Center, one of the world's greenest buildings and a hub for environmental education and community engagement in Virginia Beach; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Jane Parke Batten hereby be commended for her unwavering dedication to philanthropy, her visionary leadership, and her profound impact on education, community development, and environmental conservation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jane Parke Batten as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for her legacy of service and generosity, which continues to inspire and uplift members of communities throughout the Commonwealth.

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