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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 397

Offered March 7, 2022

Celebrating the life of Robert Lane Saget.

Patron—Williams Graves

WHEREAS, Robert Lane Saget, a former resident of Norfolk and an American icon who made significant contributions to culture and media as a comedian, actor, and director, died on January 9, 2022; and

WHEREAS, a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Robert "Bob" Saget relocated with his family to Norfolk, where he spent many of his formative years and attended Lake Taylor High School; it was in Norfolk that he began to cultivate his passion for the performing arts by making home movies with friends on an 8mm camera; and

WHEREAS, Bob Saget attended Temple University's School of Film, Theater and Media Arts, where he earned accolades for a short film about a boy who received reconstructive facial surgery; during that time, he also began performing at comedy clubs in New York City; and

WHEREAS, after receiving his bachelor's degree, Bob Saget moved to Los Angeles and studied at the University of Southern California, but ultimately pursued a career in stand-up comedy and acting; after several small roles and a stint on *The Morning Show* on CBS, he landed his first major role on the classic situation comedy *Full House*; and

WHEREAS, Bob Saget portrayed a paragon of wholesome, supportive parenthood as the widower and single father Danny Tanner on *Full House*; while some critics disliked the show's over-the-top, glossy portrait of family life, audiences took comfort in the show's hopeful, heartfelt tone; and

WHEREAS, *Full House* consistently ranked highly in the ratings and ultimately ran for eight seasons on ABC, becoming a cultural mainstay in the late 1980s and early 1990s; and

WHEREAS, as Danny Tanner, Bob Saget was beloved as "America's dad" for his wise and reassuring nature, care for his family, and cheesy sense of humor, and he later reprised the role in the spin-off series *Fuller House* from 2016 to 2020; and

WHEREAS, audiences also welcomed Bob Saget into their homes as the longtime host of the video clip television show *America's Funniest Home Videos*, and he served as the iconic narrator voice for the CBS series *How I Met Your Mother* from 2005 to 2014; and

WHEREAS, Bob Saget was also known for pushing boundaries in riotous stand-up comedy routines and notorious cameo appearances, such as those in the cult film *Half Baked* and the HBO series *Entourage*, that occasionally shocked audiences who knew him better from his television roles, but more often demonstrated his incredible comedic flair; and

WHEREAS, Bob Saget directed several films, including *For Hope*, which was based on his late sister's battle with the disease scleroderma; he advocated for increased federal funding for research into treatments and prevention of the disease and was a board member of the Scleroderma Research Foundation; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, Bob Saget hosted a podcast, "Bob Saget's Here For You" to stay connected with fans, and he was in the process of touring the nation for his "I Don't Do Negative" comedy show at the time of his passing; and

WHEREAS, Bob Saget brought joy to others through his unfailing compassion, kindness, and generosity, and he was an influential mentor who inspired generations of fellow comedians and actors to achieve their fullest potential; and

WHEREAS, Bob Saget will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Kelly Rizzo; his daughters, Aubrey, Lara, and Jennifer, 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 Robert Lane Saget; 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 Robert Lane Saget as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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