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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 133

Offered March 7, 2022

*Celebrating the life of Elizabeth Joan Thompson Benka.*

Patron—Brewer

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Joan Thompson Benka, a vibrant and beloved member of her community, died on February 24, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the child of a military family, Elizabeth Benka lived in cities throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia in her youth, gaining a lifelong appreciation of different cultures and the ability to build strong connections with people from different walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Benka graduated from the Punahou School in Hawaii, then earned a bachelor's degree from Radford University; and

WHEREAS, after marrying her husband, Daniel, Elizabeth Benka continued to travel the world as a military spouse, living in France, Korea, and many areas of the United States before settling in Newport News; she was a finalist for a Military Wife of the Year Award in 1974; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Benka was a dedicated member of the United States Junior Chamber, also known as the Jaycees; she was a charter member and vice president of U.S. Jaycee Women and president of Virginia Jaycee Women; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Benka served as vice president of the U.S. JCI Senate and president of the Virginia JCI Senate, and she was the representative for the U.S. JCI Senate Region III Foundation at the time of her passing ; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Benka also held leadership roles in the Bellwood Women's Club, the local chapters of the Republican Women's Club and the Women of the Moose auxiliary group, and many other civic and service organizations; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Benka brought joy to others through her keen wit, generosity, and unfailing positivity; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her husband, Daniel, Elizabeth Benka will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her children, Matthew and Joanna, and their families, and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Elizabeth Joan Thompson Benka; 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 Elizabeth Joan Thompson Benka as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

HR133