

H. Res. 183

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

July 31, 1997.

Whereas the Nation honors Betty Shabazz as a wife, mother, educator, and advocate for civil and human rights, women, and the poor;

Whereas Betty Shabazz, through her life and deeds, has been an inspiration to people around the world;

Whereas Betty Shabazz was a woman of strength, resilience, perseverance, and grace who overcame the greatest of challenges;

Whereas Betty Shabazz was born Betty Sanders in Detroit, Michigan, on May 28, 1936;

Whereas Betty Shabazz met and married the controversial activist and leader El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz (Malcolm X) in New York in 1958;

Whereas on February 21, 1965, while pregnant with twins, Betty Shabazz and their four daughters witnessed Malcolm X's assassination;

Whereas Betty Shabazz exhibited her resiliency and determination as a single mother, raising and educating her six daughters, Attallah, Qubilah, Ilyasah, Gamilah, and twins Malikah and Malaak;

Whereas Betty Shabazz found the time to become certified as a registered nurse, and to later earn bachelor's and master's degrees and, finally, a doctorate in education administration from the University of Massachusetts;

Whereas Betty Shabazz joined the administrative staff of Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, New York, rising to high positions;

Whereas, while preserving the public memory of her late husband, Betty Shabazz earned a reputation of her own, as an educator, public speaker, and advocate for women, education, and civil and human rights;

Whereas on June 23, 1997, Betty Shabazz succumbed to injuries suffered in a tragic fire;

Whereas Betty Shabazz personified the roles of wife, mother, and professional woman; and

Whereas Betty Shabazz will be forever remembered for her love of family, her commitment to humankind, and for the joy and laughter she brought to all those who knew her: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives honors
- 2 the life of Betty Shabazz.

Attest:

Clerk.