

**No. R-279. House concurrent resolution honoring Tracy Penfield and her pioneering therapeutic work at SafeArt.**

(H.C.R.207)

Offered by: Representatives Davis of Washington, Graham of Williamstown, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, and French of Randolph

Offered by: Senators Benning, Kitchel, and MacDonald

Whereas, Tracy Penfield's entrée into the dance world started unconventionally, in her own living room in 1980, with a solo performance she entitled "Between Two Points," and

Whereas, from this humble beginning, Tracy Penfield broadened her familiarity with the expressive arts to include the spoken word, especially storytelling, and music, and

Whereas, she has fulfilled a number of instructional roles in dance education, and

Whereas, in 2000, Tracy Penfield, a survivor of a 15-year abusive relationship, established SafeArt in Chelsea as an organization dedicated to bringing the healing and therapeutic benefits of the expressive arts to abused women, as an educational tool to help avert potentially abusive relationships, and it now also offers classes in personal growth for women in yoga, weaving, and bookmaking, and

Whereas, through SafeArt, Tracy Penfield, and others she has trained, empower women to create confidence in their relationship choices, based on lessons learned through storytelling, interpretive movement, and music, and

Whereas, the empowerment derived from these expressive art forms is directed at enhancing a woman's understanding of dating violence, domestic violence, and sexual assault, and

Whereas, SafeArt's curriculum is customized and conducted in different settings, including secondary school and college residencies, and

Whereas, the Canaday Family Foundation awarded SafeArt a three-year grant in recognition of the organization's vital and pioneering work, and

Whereas, Tracy Penfield is completing a book, *A Curriculum of Courage: Making SafeArt*, part memoir and part methodology guide, chronicling SafeArt's instructional system, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Tracy Penfield and her violence prevention artistry at SafeArt, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Tracy Penfield.