

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-205

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

October 3, 2017

To recognize posthumously Barbara Blaine for her contributions to the social justice movement.

WHEREAS, Barbara Blaine, a lawyer with a degree in theology, devoted her life to serving those who suffered abuse at the hands of priests;

WHEREAS, in 1988, Barbara Blaine founded and served as the President of the Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests (SNAP), one of the nation's strongest advocacy groups for abuse survivors;

WHEREAS, in 2016, Barbara Blaine founded The Accountability Project (TAP), an organization designed to pressure Vatican officials to stop priest sex crimes internationally and to be held accountable for their crimes and cover-ups;

WHEREAS, Barbara Blaine worked for several years with the United Nations' Committee on the Rights of the Child, to help report Vatican officials' dangerous practices that continue to harm children and those that are vulnerable;

WHEREAS, Barbara Blaine's zealous advocacy helped to raise awareness of these issues in the District of Columbia when she testified before the Council in support of the Childhood Sexual Abuse Prevention Amendment Act of 2007; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Blaine was a fierce and tireless warrior on behalf of social justice and served as a voice for those who might have otherwise been silenced.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Barbara Blaine Recognition Resolution of 2017".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia posthumously recognizes and commends Ms. Barbara Blaine for her outstanding work and devotion to survivors of sexual abuse.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.