

## **MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**

## Rose Mary Hatem Bonsack, M.D.

Whereas, On September 27th, 2020, MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, and its component, The Harford County Medical Association were saddened by the loss of a member of long standing, Rose Mary Hatem Bonsack, M.D.; and

Whereas, Dr. Bonsack, a third-generation Lebanese American, was born in Havre de Grace on October 24, 1933, and remained a respected member of the community for her entire life; and

Whereas, She was a graduate of Havre de Grace High School and Washington College, and was one of two women out of a class of 98 students when she started her medical studies through the University of Maryland, and eventually earned her degree from the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, She was a force of a human being who described herself best as "a woman proving that devotion to family, hard work and the love of mankind are more than just catchy phrases"; and

Whereas, Dr. Bonsack served as the first female president of both the Maryland Academy of Family Physicians and the Harford County Medical Association and was a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians Board of Directors; and

Whereas, She served on the Board of Medical Examiners of Maryland and was the Executive Secretary of the Board of Physician Quality Assurance, forerunners to the Maryland Board of Physicians; and

Whereas, Dr. Bonsack had many roles in the local and state medical community, such as chief of clinics for the Kirk Army Health Clinic at Aberdeen Proving Ground and had several roles with the Harford County Health Department; and

Whereas, In 1991, Dr. Bonsack was elected member of the Maryland House of Delegates, where she served until 1999 as a Democrat representing District 34 in Harford County; and

Whereas, In 2011, MedChi awarded her the Henry P. and M. Page Laughlin Distinguished Member Award for her outstanding service to physicians, patients and the citizens of Maryland; and

Whereas, Friends and colleagues remember Dr. Bonsack as an inspiration to others, demonstrating a devotion to her family and Catholic faith through her charity and care for marginalized people; and

Whereas, is survived by her husband of 63 years, James Bonsack, her daughter Dr. Jeanette Bonsack and her husband David Beard, her daughter Karen Bonsack, P.T, her son Dr. Thomas Bonsack and wife Kelly, and her son James Joseph Bonsack and wife Carrie, as well as nine grandchildren, two great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. therefore, be it

Resolved, that the members of the Harford County Medical Association and the MedChi House of Delegates have adopted this resolution as an indication of the respect which the medical community held for Dr. Bonsack as a physician and humanitarian; and be it further

Resolved, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and given to Dr. Bonsack's family as an expression of the high esteem in which Dr. Bonsack was held by her colleagues.