

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.4719, by Representative Chase

WHEREAS, Rachel Carson was born in 1907 and grew up on a small Pennsylvania farm where she spent hours exploring the outdoors; and

WHEREAS, Her enthusiasm for the natural world was matched by an early love of writing, leading to her first publication in a children's magazine at age 10; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Carson entered the Pennsylvania College for Women and went on to graduate magna cum laude with a degree in zoology and then earned a master's degree in genetics at Johns Hopkins University; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Carson continued her writing, and her 1951 book, *The Sea Around Us*, became an instant success, receiving the National Book Award for nonfiction and the John Burroughs medal; and

WHEREAS, In 1962, Rachel Carson alerted America to the hazards of pesticides in her landmark and courageous book, *Silent Spring*, which documented how DDT enters the food chain and causes cancer and genetic damage; and

WHEREAS, *Silent Spring*, a best-seller for a year and translated into many languages, raised public awareness about pesticide dangers and the effects of human action on our natural world; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Carson researched and wrote *Silent Spring* while she was fighting breast cancer and bone cancer and died two years after its publication; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting to recognize on March 8th, proclaimed by the United Nations as International Women's Day, this woman who played such a critical role in raising public awareness that nature is vulnerable to human intervention;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor Rachel Carson for her contributions to scientific understanding and respect for our environment.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of  
Resolution 4719 adopted by the House of Representatives  
March 8, 2006

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Richard Nafziger, Chief Clerk