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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 204**

House Amendments in [ ] — February 1, 2000

*Proclaiming Thursday, February 24, 2000, as Virginia FFA Day.*

Patrons—Orrock, Abbitt, Albo, Armstrong, Barlow, Black, Blevins, Bloxom, Bolvin, Broman, Bryant, Byron, Cantor, Clement, Councill, Cox, Davis, Day, DeBoer, Deeds, Devolites, Dickinson, Drake, Dudley, Griffith, Hamilton, Hargrove, Harris, Howell, Ingram, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, S.C., Katzen, Keister, Kilgore, Landes, Larrabee, Louderback, Marshall, May, McClure, McDonnell, McQuigg, Morgan, Nixon, O'Brien, Parrish, Phillips, Pollard, Purkey, Putney, Reid, Rhodes, Rollison, Ruff, Rust, Sherwood, Shuler, Stump, Suit, Tata, Tate, Thomas, Van Yahres, Wagner, Wardrup, Ware and Weatherholtz; Senators: Barry, Bolling, Chichester, Couric, Edwards, Hanger, Hawkins, Houck, Marye, Miller, K.G., Mims, Newman, Norment, Potts, Puckett, Rerras, Reynolds, Trumbo, Wampler and Watkins

Referred to Committee on Agriculture

WHEREAS, the FFA (Future Farmers of America) has prepared generations of young Americans not only for careers in agriculture but also for prominent roles in the civic life of communities across this nation; and

WHEREAS, FFA was founded in Virginia as the Future Farmers of Virginia in 1926; and

WHEREAS, the week of February 20-26, 2000, is to be observed as National FFA Week in honor of the noteworthy contributions of past and present members of the FFA; and

WHEREAS, the theme of this year's observance, "FFA — The Signature of Success," is highly appropriate in view of the many past and current American leaders who were former FFA members; and

WHEREAS, the father of our country, George Washington, figures prominently in FFA symbolism and ceremonies, which celebrate his agricultural background and the values he represented; and

WHEREAS, it is especially fitting that Virginia, firmly rooted in the Jeffersonian faith that agrarian ideals are the foundation of a democratic society, should acknowledge and celebrate the importance of an organization that so clearly reflects and preserves those ideals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That Thursday, February 24, 2000, be proclaimed Virginia FFA Day to recognize FFA chapters throughout Virginia for their contributions to the economic health and civic vitality of the Commonwealth.

[ RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the Presidents of the Virginia Future Farmers of America Association, the Virginia Farm Bureau, the Executive Directors of the Virginia Agribusiness Council and the Virginia Council of Farmers Cooperative, requesting that they further disseminate copies of this resolution to their respective constituencies in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly in this matter. ]

ENGROSSED

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