

2000 SESSION

ENGROSSED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 60

Offered January 17, 2000

Commending the forestry profession and the Society of American Foresters.

Patrons—Thomas, Abbitt, Albo, Bloxom, Callahan, Cantor, Cranwell, Darner, Deeds, Devolites, Dickinson, Dillard, Grayson, Hull, Ingram, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, J.C., Keister, Kilgore, Pollard, Ruff, Shuler, Stump, Tate and Woodrum

WHEREAS, the forest resources of the Commonwealth are abundant, covering more than 15 million acres, with over three-fourths of this forest land being owned by private landowners not connected to either government or the forest industry; and

WHEREAS, the forests of Virginia are invaluable assets and are vital to its citizens in providing timber and other useful wood products, filtering air and polluted water, protecting soil and water resources, providing habitat for fish and wildlife, offering outdoor recreation and tourism opportunities, and supporting the general health and quality of life for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, industries depending on Virginia's private and public forest resources employ nearly 230,000 individuals throughout all regions of the Commonwealth and account for over \$11 billion annually of Virginia's economy; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has a vested interest in the sustainability of Virginia's forest resources and in ensuring that the needs of present generations are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs; and

WHEREAS, the forestry profession has used its knowledge, skills, and conservation ethic to ensure the continued health and sustainable management of Virginia's private and public forest resources to benefit society; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, the Society of American Foresters, representing all segments of the forestry profession in Virginia and the United States, celebrates 100 years of advancing the science, education, technology, and practice of forestry; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly recognize the forestry profession and the Society of American Foresters for a century of service to the citizens of Virginia in providing professional advice, research, extension, teaching, and leadership in promoting the stewardship and sustainable management of Virginia's forest resources; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Society of American Foresters as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for its 100 years of service to the citizens of the Commonwealth.

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