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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 208

Offered February 1, 2002

Commending the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP).

Patrons—Mims, Howell and Potts; Delegates: Black, Marshall, R.G., May, Moran, Reese and Rust

WHEREAS, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) is a Northern-Virginia-based nonprofit organization formed in 1982 to fight drunk driving, drugged driving, and underage drinking in the Washington metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, since WRAP's formation, and despite unprecedented population growth, traffic deaths in Northern Virginia have decreased by more than 17 percent between 1982 and 2000; and

WHEREAS, WRAP's SoberRide program, a privately funded traffic safety initiative, has provided 18,233 free taxicab rides to Washington metropolitan area drivers who otherwise may have driven home drunk; and

WHEREAS, WRAP has reached tens of thousands of Northern Virginia high school students and employees through the organization's impaired driving education programs, "Alcohol Awareness for Students" and "Safe and Vital Employees" (SAVE); and

WHEREAS, through private funding, WRAP has successfully championed measures in the General Assembly to deter drunk driving, drugged driving, and teenage drinking; and

WHEREAS, WRAP has ably served as a partner of the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles on a number of traffic safety educational initiatives, including the 1996 to 1998 "It's Cool to Know the Rules" campaign; and

WHEREAS, WRAP has also been a partner with numerous Northern Virginia law-enforcement agencies in staffing and supporting sobriety checkpoints and has worked to bring traffic safety programs into Northern Virginia's high schools; and

WHEREAS, WRAP has served as a public-private coalition in bringing together public entities and business interests from the insurance, automotive, and hospitality industries to address the issues of impaired driving and underage drinking; and

WHEREAS, 2002 marks WRAP's 10th year of recognizing Northern Virginia and surrounding area high school students for their efforts to promote alcohol-free and drug-free lifestyles to their peers via the organization's GEICO Student Awards; and

WHEREAS, twice honored with Virginia's prestigious Governor's Award for Transportation Safety in Impaired Driving Prevention, WRAP is commemorating its 20th year of fighting drunk driving, drugged driving, and underage drinking in Northern Virginia and the Washington metropolitan area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Washington Regional Alcohol Program on the occasion of its 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Washington Regional Alcohol Program as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for WRAP's lifesaving work.

ENGROSSED

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