

2003 SESSION

ENGROSSED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 618

Offered January 8, 2003

Prefiled January 7, 2003

Commending Tonya Matney.

Patron—Dudley

WHEREAS, Tonya Matney of Floyd County was named the 2002 Mrs. International at the worldwide pageant in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, in August 2002; and

WHEREAS, to qualify for the Mrs. International competition, Tonya Matney won the Mrs. Virginia pageant, in which she has competed for the past five years; and

WHEREAS, unlike many such competitions, the Mrs. Virginia and Mrs. International pageants require contestants to champion a cause, and Tonya Matney has long been an effective advocate for the Court Appointed Special Advocates, or CASA; and

WHEREAS, a former director of nursing and a radiologist technologist, Tonya Matney is a trained CASA advocate who assists abused children in the legal system; and

WHEREAS, as Mrs. International, Tonya Matney will take her advocacy to the national and international stage, increasing public awareness of this vitally important program; and

WHEREAS, a CASA volunteer since 1999, Tonya Matney has witnessed the appalling effects of child abuse and is dedicated to helping the nearly half-million children who need CASA services each year; and

WHEREAS, Tonya Matney's perseverance and dedication to an important cause earned her the prestigious Mrs. International crown, and in the year of her reign, she will be an effective and compassionate representative of Floyd County, CASA, and the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Tonya Matney on becoming Mrs. International 2002 and on her commitment to helping the children of the Commonwealth and the nation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Tonya Matney as an expression of the congratulations and best wishes of the General Assembly.

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