

047974820

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 147

Offered January 29, 2004

Commending Sharon E. Bennett and Evan C. Wooton.

Patrons—Stolle, Bell, Blevins, Bolling, Chichester, Colgan, Cuccinelli, Deeds, Devolites, Edwards, Hanger, Hawkins, Houck, Howell, Lambert, Locke, Lucas, Marsh, Martin, Miller, Mims, Newman, Norment, O'Brien, Obenshain, Potts, Puckett, Puller, Quayle, Rerras, Reynolds, Ruff, Saslaw, Stosch, Ticer, Wagner, Wampler, Watkins, Whipple and Williams

WHEREAS, Sharon E. Bennett founded Premier Pet Products, LLC, in Chesterfield County in 1989; and

WHEREAS, between 1989 and 1998, Sharon Bennett led the growth of Premier Pet Products from a two-person operation into a \$2.4 million business providing specialty pet products through the efforts of more than 40 employees; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Premier Pet Products hired Evan C. Wooton to serve as its President, and the growth of the company following his employment has been impressive; and

WHEREAS, through the combined expertise of Sharon Bennett and Evan Wooton, Premier Pet Products has rapidly developed into a leading competitor in its worldwide market; and

WHEREAS, Premier Pet Products was honored with the Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce's 2002 Small Business of the Year IMPACT Award; and

WHEREAS, also in 2002, Sharon Bennett received the Richmond Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners' (NAWBO) Entrepreneur of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, Sharon Bennett and Evan Wooton were honored as the 2003 Virginia Small Business Persons of the Year by the Virginia District of the United States Small Business Administration; and

WHEREAS, Sharon Bennett and Evan Wooton were named the 2003 National Small Business Persons of the Year by the United States Small Business Administration; and

WHEREAS, Premier Pet Products represents what many Virginia small businesses strive to be; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend Sharon E. Bennett and Evan C. Wooton on the extraordinary success of Premier Pet Products and their receipt of numerous state and national awards; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sharon E. Bennett and Evan C. Wooton as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

INTRODUCED

SI147