

2006 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 242

Commending Planters on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 3, 2006

Agreed to by the Senate, February 9, 2006

WHEREAS, in 1906 Italian immigrant Amedeo Obici, along with his friend and business partner Mario Peruzzi, founded Planters Peanut Company and revolutionized the peanut industry; the company was incorporated in 1908 as the Planters Nut and Chocolate Company; and

WHEREAS, in 1913 Mr. Obici opened his first mass processing facility in Suffolk where the company's nut processing and packaging operations remain today; and

WHEREAS, Planters was and remains the industry pioneer in innovative manufacturing techniques and marketing practices; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Peanut was born in 1916 and has become a symbol widely known and loved in the City of Suffolk and around the world; and

WHEREAS, in 1927 Planters constructed a cold storage building and in 1987 constructed a state-of-the-art blanching facility in Suffolk, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, acquired by Standard Brands, Inc., in 1961, Planters Nut and Chocolate Company grew and prospered and became a part of Nabisco Brands in 1981; and

WHEREAS, in 2000 Nabisco Brands was integrated into the family of Kraft Foods, which in 2005 completed construction on a 57,000-square-foot warehouse addition to the Planters peanut facility to store and ship finished Planters' products around the world; and

WHEREAS, Planters has contributed greatly to both the peanut farming community and the economy of Southside Virginia for many years, employing 325 persons and providing approximately \$78 million per year in economic impact to the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Planters is involved in the Suffolk community through contributions to the United Way, March of Dimes, Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, Suffolk Public Schools, Meals on Wheels, Angel Tree, Coats for Kids, and the Planters Educational Foundation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Planters on the occasion of its 100th anniversary and on its many contributions to the rich history of Suffolk and the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Planters as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for its outstanding service to the Commonwealth.

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