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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 286

Offered February 8, 2006

Commending Mothers Against Drunk Driving on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

Patrons—Oder, Abbitt, Albo, Amundson, Armstrong, Athey, BaCote, Barlow, Bell, Bowling, Brink, Bulova, Caputo, Carrico, Cole, Cosgrove, Cox, Crockett-Stark, Ebbin, Eisenberg, Fralin, Frederick, Gear, Gilbert, Hall, Hamilton, Howell, A.T., Howell, W.J., Hugo, Iaquinto, Ingram, Janis, Kilgore, Landes, Lewis, Lohr, Marsden, Marshall, D.W., May, McClellan, McEachin, McQuigg, Melvin, Miller, Moran, Morgan, Nixon, Nutter, O'Bannon, Parrish, Peace, Phillips, Poisson, Purkey, Rapp, Rust, Saxman, Scott, E.T., Scott, J.M., Shannon, Shuler, Sickles, Tata, Tyler, Valentine, Ward, Ware, R.L., Watts, and Welch; Senators: Bell, Deeds, Edwards, Houck, Howell, Lambert, Locke, Lucas, McDougale, Miller, Norment, Obenshain, O'Brien, Potts, Puckett, Quayle, Reynolds, Ticer, Wagner, Wampler, Watkins, and Whipple

WHEREAS, since Mothers Against Drunk Driving was established on September 5, 1980, the grass roots organization has helped save more than 300,000 lives and has received overwhelming support from Americans across the Commonwealth and the nation; and

WHEREAS, Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) was founded 25 years ago in California by Candace Lightner, whose 13-year-old daughter was killed by a drunk driver; the organization changed its name to Mothers Against Drunk Driving in 1984; and

WHEREAS, the silver anniversary of MADD provides the opportunity for volunteers, law-enforcement officers, legislators, community leaders, and citizens to remember that their efforts to prevent drunk driving make a monumental difference in saving lives and preventing injuries; and

WHEREAS, MADD has been successful at making drunk driving, which is 100% preventable, a very real and personal issue by bringing the stories of countless victims and their families to the forefront of the national consciousness; and

WHEREAS, traffic deaths involving drinking and driving have decreased 44% since 1980; however, today one person still dies every 30 minutes in an alcohol-related crash and a half million more victims are seriously injured; and

WHEREAS, twenty-one years ago the law setting the federal minimum drinking age at 21 was passed, and the national illegal drunk driving level of 0.08% blood-alcohol concentration (BAC) has been enacted in every state as a result of the superb efforts of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, conscientious citizens, families, and lawmakers; and

WHEREAS, to honor the significant milestone of MADD's silver anniversary, the organization's past and present leadership, hundreds of volunteers, members of Congress and other leaders, as well as grass root supporters will gather in Washington, D.C., near the Capitol on September 29, 2006, for a celebratory rally; and

WHEREAS, the important mission to stop drunk driving, to support the victims of the violent crime, and to prevent underage drinking has become an important priority for all Americans because of the hard work, tireless efforts, and the impassioned message of Mothers Against Drunk Driving; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Mothers Against Drunk Driving on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to representatives of Mothers Against Drunk Driving for its excellent work and extraordinary efforts to prevent alcohol-related traffic deaths and injuries in the Commonwealth and the nation.

INTRODUCED

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