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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 187

Offered January 30, 2006

Commending Planters on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Patrons—Quayle and Lucas

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, in 1916, Mr. Peanut was born 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, Standard Brands, Inc. acquired Planters Nut and Chocolate Company in 1961; the 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 of 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 Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Planters on the occasion of its 100th anniversary, as well as on its many contributions to the rich history of Suffolk and the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate 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.

INTRODUCED

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