

2006 SESSION

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 17

Offered February 28, 2006

Commending the Town of Clarksville.

Patron—Ruff

WHEREAS, the 2006 World Inboard Championship will be held in Clarksville in conjunction with the Third Annual Clarksville Hydroplane Challenge power boat race on October 7-8, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the 2006 World Inboard Championship race was originally awarded to Morgan City, Louisiana, but the hosting club decided that they would be unable to host the 2006 event due to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina; the American Power Boat Association reissued bids to invite other localities to host the 2006 event; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's only lakeside town, the Town of Clarksville, submitted a bid to host the race in conjunction with its annual Clarksville Hydroplane Challenge, which is held on the 50,000-acre Buggs Island Lake, and Clarksville was chosen the winner over Seattle, Washington, to host the prestigious event; and

WHEREAS, the 2006 World Inboard Championship will attract over 100 race boats from all over the United States, Canada, and the rest of the world, including New Zealand, which has confirmed early its entry; the event will draw crews, family, race officials, and fans to the Town of Clarksville for five days of activities and fun; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clarksville will also be hosting the annual Harvest Days Festival the same weekend as the races, and the combined festivities will attract thousands of tourists and visitors to Clarksville and the lake region; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clarksville has been successful at transforming its industrial and tobacco-based community into a motorsports, tourism, and technology-driven economy due to the annual Clarksville Hydroplane Challenge, a new regional commerce park, a proposed 23-acre lakefront lodging and conference center in the Oconeechee State Park, the redevelopment of Historic Downtown Clarksville, and a proposed downtown harbor, which will provide water access to shops, restaurants, and lakefront activities; and

WHEREAS, the tourism initiatives of the Town of Clarksville are deserving of the recognition and support of the Virginia Tourism Corporation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Town of Clarksville hereby be commended on its selection as the host of the 2006 World Inboard Championship to be held on Buggs Island Lake; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare copies of this resolution to be presented to the mayor of the Town of Clarksville and the president and chairman of the Virginia Tourism Corporation as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's best wishes for a successful celebration.

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