

2006 SPECIAL SESSION I

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5113

Offered June 20, 2006

Commending Best Buddies Virginia.

Patron—Caputo

WHEREAS, founded in May 2005, Best Buddies Virginia, headquartered in McLean, is an outstanding nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Best Buddies Virginia provides opportunities for productive and memorable one-to-one friendships through chapters in Virginia's schools, as well as through innovative sporting events, activities, and programs such as the e-Buddies networking program; and

WHEREAS, e-Buddies is a Best Buddies International program, which greatly enriches friendships by fostering e-mail interaction between children and adults with intellectual disabilities and their peers who do not have intellectual disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Best Buddies International, the nonprofit's dynamic, grass-roots parent organization, was founded by Anthony Kennedy Shriver in 1989; and

WHEREAS, with the help of hard-working volunteers, especially young people, Best Buddies Virginia has enlisted numerous participants and established enthusiastic middle school, high school, and college chapters across the Commonwealth to promote socialization opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities; and

WHEREAS, through the dedication and compassion of volunteers and the avid support of civic leaders and community benefactors, corporations, and individual donors, Best Buddies Virginia has greatly touched the lives of all of the participants in its first year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Best Buddies Virginia for its outstanding programs and fine efforts to improve the quality of life for the citizens of the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Stephen D. Mutty on behalf of the advisory board and the members of Best Buddies Virginia for their commitment to people with intellectual disabilities.

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