

2007 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 960

Offered February 19, 2007

Commending Teresa and Allen Patton and their dog Diamond Jim.

Patron—Marsden

WHEREAS, Teresa and Allen Patton, who live in Fairfax Station, own the remarkable dog Diamond Jim that was honored "Best in Show" at the prestigious 131st Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show on February 13, 2007, held at Madison Square Garden in New York; and

WHEREAS, Diamond Jim, a beautiful six-year-old, brown and white, English Springer Spaniel, was expertly shown by veteran handler, Kellie Fitzgerald; and

WHEREAS, Diamond Jim, registered as Champion Felicity's Diamond Jim and known as James, is not only an extraordinary example of his breed, but also a certified therapy dog; and

WHEREAS, the very knowledgeable and distinguished Judge Robert Indeglia chose Diamond Jim as "Best in Show" from a field of seven magnificent "Best in Breed" winners; and

WHEREAS, Diamond Jim was judged the best of the 2,628 dogs entered in the show this year and it was the sixth time an English Springer Spaniel has been honored as the Westminster Kennel Club's top dog; and

WHEREAS, Diamond Jim won "Best in Show" at the American Kennel Club/Eukanuba National Championship in December 2006, and he was the number two dog at the Westminster show last year; and

WHEREAS, the 2007 "Best in Show" Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show win is a crowning achievement for Diamond Jim and the Allens, and the English Springer Spaniel will now retire from the show circuit to the life of a fulltime therapy dog and beloved pet; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Teresa and Allen Patton and their remarkable dog Diamond Jim on a well-deserved 131st Westminster Kennel Club "Best in Show" win; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Teresa and Allen Patton as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation of their outstanding achievement.

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