

2007 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 980

Offered February 19, 2007

Commending The First Tee of Hampton Roads.

Patron—Cosgrove

WHEREAS, the World Golf Federation created The First Tee in 1997 as a way to bring golf to youngsters who otherwise would not be exposed to the game and its positive values; and

WHEREAS, The First Tee of Hampton Roads is the home of the junior golf program, a year-round program that introduces kids to the challenges and rewards of the game of golf and is located at the Tournament Players Club of Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, the primary goal of The First Tee is to provide young people of all backgrounds an opportunity to develop goals such as honesty, integrity, and sportsmanship through learning the game of golf; and

WHEREAS, on a national level, The First Tee's objectives for the next five years include, introducing golf and its core values to 3.5 million young people, delivering a consistent life skills experience, establishing the National School Program in 140 communities across the country, and creating a chapter in each of the 50 states; and

WHEREAS, The First Tee partners with civic organizations to provide community golf programs to young people ages eight to 18; and

WHEREAS, enthusiastic volunteers serve as role models and mentors to program participants by listening to them, providing encouragement, and demonstrating the core values of honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, and self-discipline; and

WHEREAS, as participants progress in their golf skills, The First Tee of Hampton Roads provides scholarships to The First Tee Life Skills Experience Program, and The First Tee Scholars Program encourages academic achievement, development of leadership skills, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, The First Tee has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of young people in Virginia and across the country; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend The First Tee of Hampton Roads on its innovative program to mentor and encourage excellence and character development in Virginia's youth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Tom Flynn, Executive Director of The First Tee of Hampton Roads, as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for the organization's commitment to improve the quality of life of young people in the Commonwealth.

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