

2008 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 352

Offered February 6, 2008

Commending Buddy Hayes.

Patron—Howell, W.J.

WHEREAS, Buddy Hayes of Chesapeake was crowned Ms. Wheelchair Virginia 2007-2008 at the Ms. Wheelchair Virginia Pageant on April 14, 2007, held at the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center in Fishersville; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wheelchair Virginia was established in 1974, ran continuously through 1986, was reestablished as a nonprofit organization in 2001, and is dedicated to advocacy and focused on educating the public about the accomplishments, achievements, and needs of disabled Virginians; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Hayes graduated from Virginia Wesleyan College in Norfolk and is a certified therapeutic recreational specialist; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Hayes' impressive Ms. Wheelchair platform is "sports and recreation for everyBODY," and her motto is "Desire to Inspire"; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Hayes has received many honors and accolades for her outstanding achievements; while representing Virginia at the 35th Ms. Wheelchair America program held in Bethesda, Maryland, on July 28, 2007, she was honored with the Todd Mullins Courage Award for the best speech on heroism and courage; and

WHEREAS, a responsible citizen determined to make a difference, Buddy Hayes is a committed volunteer for numerous organizations, including the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, the Canine Companions for Independence, and the Paralyzed Veterans of America, and she serves as the acting chair of the Chesapeake Mayor's Board for Persons with Disabilities; and

WHEREAS, an effective and dedicated advocate for people with disabilities, Buddy Hayes travels throughout the Commonwealth to support and raise awareness of issues of importance to people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Buddy Hayes loves to work and play with her dedicated service dog, Ellie; is an accomplished wheelchair athlete; and is an articulate and poised national motivational speaker; and

WHEREAS, an intelligent and remarkable woman, Buddy Hayes will represent her community and the Commonwealth with great distinction during her reign as Ms. Wheelchair Virginia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Buddy Hayes on her selection as Ms. Wheelchair Virginia 2007-2008; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Buddy Hayes as an expression of the congratulations and best wishes of the General Assembly.

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