

2008 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 358

Offered February 6, 2008

Commending the Chesapeake Bay Foundation on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Clean the Bay Day.

Patrons—Mathieson, Bouchard, Alexander, BaCote, Iaquinto, Lewis, Miller, P.J., Scott, J.M., Tata, Vanderhye and Ward

WHEREAS, within the 64,000-square mile Chesapeake Bay watershed, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, West Virginia, Delaware, and Washington, D.C., participate in Clean the Bay Day; and

WHEREAS, Clean the Bay Day began in Virginia Beach as a local cooperative effort, and today the project is shepherded by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and directed locally through the Virginia Beach Clean Community Commission; and

WHEREAS, twelve concerned Virginia Beach citizens, fed up with litter and debris plaguing their favorite shorelines, banded together in 1989 to start Clean the Bay Day; and

WHEREAS, since the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's first Clean the Bay Day in 1989, more than 81,350 volunteers have removed more than four million pounds of debris from 3,913 miles of area shoreline; and

WHEREAS, 6,386 dedicated volunteers set a record in 2007 with the removal of 212,071 pounds of litter from 336 miles of shoreline; and

WHEREAS, since its creation in 1967, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and its enthusiastic and committed volunteers have achieved significant milestones to arrest the Bay system's decline and to begin to restore health to the watershed; and

WHEREAS, through the landmark Environmental Protection Agency study of the Chesapeake Bay in the 1970s, the first interstate Chesapeake Bay Agreement in 1983, Maryland's historic sewage treatment bond bill in 2004, and Virginia's comparable legislative commitment in 2005, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation has been saving the Bay; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate the Chesapeake Bay Foundation on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Clean the Bay Day; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude to the organization for its commitment to restore the health of the Chesapeake Bay watershed for the use and enjoyment of future generations.

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