

**2008 SESSION**

**ENROLLED**

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 362**

*Designating April 14, in 2008 and in each succeeding year, as Ms. Wheelchair Virginia Day in Virginia.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 11, 2008

Agreed to by the Senate, February 26, 2008

WHEREAS, Ms. Wheelchair Virginia focuses on the accomplishments and the needs of Virginians with disabilities through its mission to educate and increase awareness, advocate for a disability-friendly environment and a change in societal attitudes, and motivate and inspire Virginians to be role models of change; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Phillip K. Wood, a physician in Columbus, Ohio, devoted his practice to the treatment and rehabilitation of functionally impaired individuals, and he established Ms. Wheelchair America in 1972 as a forum to promote the achievements of people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the first Ms. Wheelchair Virginia was chosen in 1974, the pageant ran continuously through 1986, and the program was reestablished as a nonprofit organization in 2001; and

WHEREAS, an outstanding Ms. Wheelchair Virginia contestant is selected annually to serve a year-long reign and be the spokeswoman for the organization at engagements throughout the state, representing Virginians with disabilities and all of the citizens of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wheelchair Virginia is an integral partner of a nationwide network of volunteers who are dedicated to increasing public awareness and promoting change so that all of the country's citizens may lead productive and meaningful lives; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wheelchair Virginia uses her time and many talents, her winning platform, and her superb speaking abilities to promote public awareness of the Ms. Wheelchair Virginia program and activities, and she is an exemplary advocate and ambassador for Virginians with disabilities and the citizens of the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate April 14, in 2008 and in each succeeding year, as Ms. Wheelchair Virginia Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.

**ENROLLED**

**HJ362ER**