HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 780

Commending the American Cancer Society.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 23, 2009 Agreed to by the Senate, January 29, 2009

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community-based organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem; through research, education, advocacy, and services, the organization is determined to prevent cancer, save lives, and diminish suffering; and

WHEREAS, cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States, and one in every four deaths in the United States is from cancer; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 565,650 Americans died from cancer last year, which is more than 1,500 people per day; and an estimated 35,590 new cases of cancer were diagnosed in Virginia in 2008; and

WHEREAS, major scientific breakthroughs in the last 15 years have changed the way we think about cancer; and

WHEREAS, today, 65 percent of people diagnosed with cancer will survive the disease for at least five years; and

WHEREAS, communities all across the Commonwealth will celebrate life and the prevention of cancer by participating in American Cancer Society Day in Virginia on February 5, 2009; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the American Cancer Society for its outstanding contributions to the fight against cancer in the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the American Cancer Society as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude to the organization for its dedication to the health and well-being of all Virginians.