HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 960

Commending Lee's Friends on the occasion of its 30th anniversary.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 2009 Agreed to by the Senate, February 25, 2009

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2009, Lee's Friends, a nationally acclaimed cancer support group, will celebrate the organization's 30th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, formed by admirers of Lee Harkins of Norfolk, who was only 16 when she died of Hodgkin's disease in 1978, Lee's Friends was established as a charitable trust in her name to sustain services for other cancer sufferers; and

WHEREAS, Lee's Friends is a network of trained lay and professional volunteers who offer comfort for cancer patients and their families; and

WHEREAS, Lee's Friends offers emotional support from trained volunteers, free transportation to medical appointments, emergency financial assistance, and special events; and

WHEREAS, in 1982 Lee's Friends was recognized by President Ronald Reagan as one of 16 nationwide organizations to receive the President's Volunteer Action Award; in addition, it has received numerous other awards over the past 30 years, including those from the Commonwealth of Virginia, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the National Congress on Cancer Survivorship, and the Hampton Roads Volunteer Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, Lee's Friends now has more than 350 volunteers and has established an endowment for the organization; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend and congratulate Lee's Friends on the occasion of its 30th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Lee's Friends, as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for the organization's dedication and hard work on behalf of cancer patients throughout the Hampton Roads area.