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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 366

Offered January 16, 2009

*Commending Mary Russo.*

Patrons—Wagner, Blevins, Miller, Y.B., Northam and Stolle

WHEREAS, Mary Russo, the volunteer coordinator for the City of Virginia Beach Office of Volunteer Resources, is recognized for her 30 years of exemplary volunteer service to her community and her fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, an able administrator and visionary leader, Mary Russo has been the city council's tireless volunteer coordinator since the late 1970s; and

WHEREAS, Mary Russo began as a volunteer with the Virginia Beach Volunteer Emergency Services along with a few volunteers assigned to the Virginia Beach Library Department; and

WHEREAS, today, due to Mary Russo's excellent recruitment, the Virginia Beach Library Department is manned by 500 volunteers who work at the City Library in several shifts; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Mary Russo has encouraged more than 30 departments to utilize the efforts of enthusiastic and trained volunteers who work alongside city employees every day; and

WHEREAS, Mary Russo garners constant praise for her commitment to Virginia Beach and her fellow residents, and she receives no monetary compensation at all; she can be found almost every day hard at work in the volunteer office; and

WHEREAS, for the past five years, Mary Russo, providing extensive training as well as her considerable expertise, has assisted the Virginia Beach volunteer program's sister city of Miyazaki, Japan, in establishing its own successful volunteer program; and

WHEREAS, because of Mary Russo's many talents and innate ability to inspire others, the City of Virginia Beach has utilized 12,487 volunteers who have contributed 780,560 hours valued at over \$9 million, saving citizens two cents on every dollar; and

WHEREAS, Mary Russo was honored at a gala celebration of the 30th anniversary of the City of Virginia Beach Volunteer Resources held in the Volunteer Garden at the Virginia Beach City Hall on September 30, 2008; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend Mary Russo for her 30 years of leadership as the volunteer coordinator for the City of Virginia Beach Volunteer Resources; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Mary Russo as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation of her outstanding volunteer service to the City of Virginia Beach and her fellow citizens.

INTRODUCED

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