

2010 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 52

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 11, 2010

Designating the last week of May, in 2010 and in each succeeding year, as Hurricane Awareness and Preparedness Week in Virginia.

Patron—Sherwood

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Atlantic hurricane season officially spans June 1 through November 30 of each year, and these fierce storms often result in flooding, high winds, power outages, storm surges, tornadoes, extensive damage to personal property and the infrastructure in our localities, personal injury, and death; and

WHEREAS, the lack of public awareness and preparation for hurricanes exacerbates major hurricane disasters; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the national and state hurricane awareness and preparedness week is to educate the public concerning hurricanes, encourage families to prepare for these powerful storms, and to take precautions to protect human life and minimize damage to homes, communities, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, awareness and preparation for advancing hurricanes, particularly in coastal and inland communities, seamless communication among and access to emergency response teams, medical care, public safety officials, and other community services are critical to surviving and recovering from hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, Virginia has taken bold legislative and administrative action designed to inform citizens of hurricane season each year and of the need to prepare for the storms, and has structured a coordinated and statewide emergency response plan to protect life and property; and

WHEREAS, however, Virginia's efforts would be greatly enhanced if the State and National Hurricane Awareness and Preparedness Week coincided to emphasize planning and coordination of efforts among local, state, and federal governments, and provide better visibility of the importance of hurricane awareness and preparation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate the last week of May, in 2010 and in each succeeding year, as Hurricane Awareness and Preparedness Week in Virginia; and, be it

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

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