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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 65

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 11, 2010

Commending Lillie Cox Branch.

Patron—McClellan, McQuinn and Ward

WHEREAS, Lillie Cox Branch is recognized for her 40 years of outstanding service to scouting in Virginia, young people, and the Girl Scout Commonwealth Council of Virginia, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Lillie Cox was born in Chesterfield County, the only child of Elsie and Richard Cox; graduated from Elizabeth State University with a bachelor's degree in business; and attended Case Western Reserve University and the University of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Lillie Cox Branch began her career with the Girl Scout Commonwealth Council of Virginia, Inc., (GSCCV) in 1969 at the entry level position of field executive and moved up through the professional ranks, becoming the organization's hardworking chief executive officer in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Lillie Cox Branch has been a champion of the Girl Scouts of the USA, steadfastly supporting and promoting its mission to "build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place"; and

WHEREAS, under Lillie Cox Branch's visionary and steadfast leadership, the GSCCV continued to grow and expand its programs and activities, instructing and mentoring over 18,000 girls by 2006; and

WHEREAS, an excellent administrator, as well as good friend, Lillie Cox Branch was fondly known by her associates as "head cheerleader," and after serving thousands of promising and talented girls under five council presidents, she retired from the position of CEO of the GSCCV on August 31, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Lillie Cox Branch has generously given her time and expertise to many civic organizations, including the American Association of University Women, Virginia Women's Conference Committee and Fund Development Board, Business Women's Training Institute, Richmond Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Junior League of Richmond, United Way Services of Greater Richmond, Women's Yellow Pages of Greater Richmond Advisory Board, Richmond First Club, Vision 20/20, and the Drucker Foundation Self Assessment Tool Development Team; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Lillie Cox Branch has received numerous awards and accolades for her dedication and accomplishments, including earning the Thanks Badge from the GSCCV and being honored as one of 12 Women Leading Richmond into the 21st Century by the Women's Yellow Pages of Greater Richmond, Inc., the Mother of the Year by Tabernacle Baptist Church, and a Virginia Hero by Virginia Heroes, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Girl Scout Commonwealth Council of Virginia, Inc., honored Lillie Cox Branch at a gala event entitled "Portraits of a Trailblazer: Celebrating 40 Years of Leadership" on October 1, 2009, at the Jefferson Hotel in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Lillie Cox Branch has been a hero and role model to girls, scout leaders, parents, and loyal supporters of scouting in the Commonwealth for 40 years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Lillie Cox Branch on her outstanding service to scouting in Virginia, young people, and the Girl Scout Commonwealth Council of Virginia, Inc.; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Lillie Cox Branch as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for her longtime leadership and best wishes for a happy retirement.

INTRODUCED

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