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## 11103170D HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 628

Offered January 12, 2011 Prefiled January 11, 2011

Commending Daren Gardner.

Patron—Cox, J.A.

WHEREAS, Daren Gardner of Chester successfully completed his 48-state "Constitution Ride Across America: Returning to America's Greatness" in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Daren Gardner, a family man and small-business owner who strongly believes in the principles embodied in the United States Constitution, decided in 2009 to devote more of his free time to making a difference in his country; and

WHEREAS, Daren Gardner chose to combine his love of the U.S. Constitution with his experience as a motorcycle rider in a cross-country ride he entitled "Constitution Ride Across America: Returning to America's Greatness"; and

WHEREAS, Daren Gardner traveled more than 15,000 miles across the continental United States in an effort to nationally promote the values contained in the U.S. Constitution and encourage state legislators to uphold those values; and

WHEREAS, beginning on August 15, 2010, Daren Gardner traveled for seven weeks by motorcycle to the state capitols of 48 states, where he held rallies in support of the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, at each location, Daren Gardner met with state legislators with the goal of having a legislator from every state sign the Constitution Resolution for America, which encourages signees to uphold the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, by the end of his ride, Daren Gardner had received 42 signatures from legislators around the country who pledged to support and uphold the U.S. Constitution and its values; and

WHEREAS, Daren Gardner concluded the "Constitution Ride Across America: Returning to America's Greatness" at a rally in the nation's capital, where he again encouraged citizens to educate themselves and become actively involved in the political process; and

WHEREAS, before and throughout his ride, Daren Gardner received generous support from many individuals and businesses across the country who helped to coordinate the rallies and support him during his ride; and

WHEREAS, a model of engaged citizenry, Daren Gardner shared his passionate devotion to the U.S. Constitution and its principles with hundreds of citizens across the United States, helping to educate, inform, and inspire them; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Daren Gardner on the completion of his "Constitution Ride Across America: Returning to America's Greatness"; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Daren Gardner as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and respect for his commitment to the United States Constitution and the principles it embodies.