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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 702

Offered January 17, 2011

Commending the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation.

Patron—McQuinn, Carr, McClellan, and Tyler

WHEREAS, in 2011 the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation celebrates 20 years of educating Virginians about breast cancer, advocating for those affected by breast cancer, and working to establish eradication of breast cancer as a priority; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation began in 1991 when five women meeting in a breast cancer support group decided to band together to fight the disease; the next year, they staged a Mother's Day Rally at the Virginia State Capitol to bring attention to the disease; and

WHEREAS, for the past 20 years, the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation has served as a strong advocate for those with breast cancer, working for Medicaid coverage for mammography, health insurance coverage for breast reconstruction and a 48-hour hospital stay following a mastectomy, and prohibition of health insurance discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation provides a wealth of information and resources about breast health and breast cancer through a wide array of programs and activities that include state and regional conferences and seminars and "Stay Abreast," an educational speakers bureau that provides presentations on breast health and breast cancer to interested organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation, with several chapters located across the state, also maintains an up-to-date website and sends out a newsletter that provides the latest information about the Foundation's activities and educational articles; and

WHEREAS, for those newly diagnosed with breast cancer, the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation has thoughtfully compiled a "Newly Diagnosed Packet," which provides a compilation of resources and information; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation sends volunteers to the Remote Area Medical Clinic in Wise County to provide educational resources and classes on breast, cervical, ovarian, and lung cancers to the residents of Southwest Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the nationally respected Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation have testified before the Office of Research on Women's Health, the Food and Drug Administration, the President's Cancer Panel, and the National Cancer Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation partnered with other like-minded organizations to found the National Breast Cancer Coalition and participated in the development and initial implementation of the National Action Plan on Breast Cancer; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation's relentless efforts helped the National Breast Cancer Coalition raise more than \$2.5 billion for the Department of Defense peer-reviewed Breast Cancer Research Program; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation has provided a valuable service to the residents of the Commonwealth and the nation through its advocacy and educational efforts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation on the occasion of its 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and gratitude for the Foundation's extraordinary dedication to helping those with breast cancer and commitment to eradicating the disease.

INTRODUCED

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