

## 2011 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 708

Offered January 18, 2011

*Commending Frying Pan Farm Park.*

Patrons—Rust; Senator: Herring

WHEREAS, in 2011 Frying Pan Farm Park celebrates 50 years of providing visitors with outstanding recreational, cultural, and educational experiences; and

WHEREAS, part of the Fairfax County Park Authority, Frying Pan Farm Park is located in western Fairfax County in the historic Floris community, which was known as Frying Pan until 1892; and

WHEREAS, Frying Pan Farm Park helps preserve Fairfax County's rich rural heritage through the maintenance and interpretation of Kidwell Farm, the Frying Pan Spring Meeting House, and the Old Floris Schoolhouse, in addition to providing numerous recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Kidwell Farm recreates family farm life from 1920 to 1950 with horses, chickens, rabbits, sheep, and other livestock along with antique farm equipment and rustic outbuildings that provide insight into life in early Fairfax County; and

WHEREAS, the Frying Pan Spring Meeting House and its springs, baptismal pond, grounds, and cemetery have survived for more than 200 years, and now tours of the building are given as part of local Scout Badge programs, including "What Makes America Special," "Listening to the Past," and "Local Lore"; and

WHEREAS, the Old Floris Schoolhouse, a four-room school built in 1911, served the Frying Pan/Floris community until the 1950s; it was preserved for use as a youth center and today serves as the site of a preschool and summer day camp for local children; and

WHEREAS, Frying Pan Farm Park is home to Fairfax County's only public equestrian facility; the facility hosts numerous equestrian events throughout the year in its Indoor Arena, which can seat 800 spectators, while its outdoor facilities provide two competition rings and a five-mile cross country course and jumping elements; and

WHEREAS, Frying Pan Farm Park also served for many years as the refuge for the fortunate turkeys pardoned in the National Thanksgiving Turkey Presentation; and

WHEREAS, Frying Pan Farm Park provides local residents and visitors with a rural haven in the midst of bustling Fairfax County while also preserving the County's rich historical legacy for generations to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Frying Pan Farm Park for its contributions to Fairfax County on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to William G. Bouie, chair of the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for Frying Pan Farm Park's commitment to providing a unique cultural, educational, and recreational experience for local residents and visitors.

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