

2011 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 828

Offered February 8, 2011

Commending Edison2.

Patrons—Armstrong, Bell, Robert B., Byron, Garrett, Marshall, D.W. and Toscano; Senators: Deeds and Smith

WHEREAS, Edison2, an automotive innovation company based in Lynchburg, won the Mainstream Class Prize in the Progressive Insurance Automotive XPrize; and

WHEREAS, the Progressive Insurance Automotive XPrize competition encourages the creation of viable and super-efficient vehicles; 111 teams from 15 countries participated in the competition; and

WHEREAS, the Progressive Insurance Automotive XPrize Mainstream Class requires cars to seat four passengers, go at least 200 miles on a tank or charge, and meet stringent performance, handling, and emissions standards all while achieving over 100 miles per gallon gasoline equivalent; and

WHEREAS, Oliver Kuttner, the chief executive officer of Edison2, assembled a team of top racing and aerospace engineers, designers, and mechanics to put together the company's Very Light Car; and

WHEREAS, the components of the Very Light Car were designed to be light yet strong, using racing experience and knowledge to augment the safety of the low-mass car; and

WHEREAS, the Very Light Car, with a combination of light weight and low aerodynamic drag, has a conventional internal combustion engine that runs on 85 percent ethanol fuel; and

WHEREAS, as the winner of the Mainstream Class Prize, Edison2 received \$5 million and looks to build its research and development capacity to demonstrate that light car principles can improve efficiency for electric, hybrid, diesel, and natural gas systems; and

WHEREAS, the success of Edison2 was recognized by Governor Bob McDonnell on September 16, 2010, and the Very Light Car was recognized by *Time Magazine* as one of the 50 best inventions of 2010; and

WHEREAS, the availability, quality, and expertise of machine shops in and around Lynchburg and Campbell County were instrumental in allowing Edison2 design innovations to be built quickly; and

WHEREAS, the XPrize-winning #98 car now resides on display in the prestigious Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the success of Edison2's Very Light Car in the Progressive Insurance Automotive XPrize Mainstream Class is a reflection of the creativity, knowledge, and dedication of Edison2's entire work force; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Edison2 for its receipt of the Mainstream Class Prize in the Progressive Insurance Automotive XPrize; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Oliver Kuttner, chief executive officer of Edison2, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and best wishes in its future endeavors.

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