

2011 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 432

Offered February 3, 2011

Commending Sandy Amato.

Patrons—Howell; Delegate: Plum

WHEREAS, Sandy Amato was honored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Reston Interfaith, Inc., with a prestigious 2011 Best of Reston Award; and

WHEREAS, the Best of Reston Awards were established to recognize individuals, businesses, and organizations that have demonstrated a strong commitment to serving the greater Reston community and improving the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Amato has volunteered with Vecinos Unidos Neighbors United for more than 10 years, providing tutoring services in the after-school homework assistance program, teaching students how to make healthy meals, and chaperoning student field trips; and

WHEREAS, for over seven years, Sandy Amato has volunteered with Reston Interfaith to assist in many different areas, dedicating herself to making meals each week for adults enrolled in the English as a second language classes, preparing meals for the North County Hypothermia Prevention Center, and supporting the Thanksgiving Basket Drive, Holiday Gifts for Kids, and Back to School drives; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, Sandy Amato and Janet Dopsovic, members of the Giving Circle of Hope in Reston, started Helping Hungry Kids, a service program whose mission is to provide food packages on weekends during the school year for children whose family incomes qualify them for free and reduced price meals during the school day, providing over 2,510 food packs to students in need during the 2009-2010 school year; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Amato is the leader of the Giving Circle of Hope's "Empty Bowls" fundraiser and works with local restaurants to donate soup for the event; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Amato has led a team for the Relay for Life starting in 2001, raising over \$70,000 to support the American Cancer Society; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Amato has dedicated thousands of hours to local nonprofit organizations in the Greater Reston community, has shared her passion for cooking and compassion for the betterment of children, and has continued to fulfill her lifelong mission to wipe out hunger in the Reston community while having a positive impact on the most vulnerable community members; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Sandy Amato on her outstanding service to the residents of Northern Virginia and on her well-deserved honor as a 2011 Best of Reston Award recipient; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sandy Amato as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation of her many achievements and best wishes for continued success.

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