ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 143

Designating February 28, in 2012 and in each succeeding year, as Spay Day in Virginia.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 20, 2012
Agreed to by the Senate, February 28, 2012

WHEREAS, cats and dogs, which possess their own unique personalities, provide faithful companionship for countless individuals; and

WHEREAS, not all pet owners spay or neuter their cats and dogs, resulting in unwanted animals that may end up in animal shelters; and

WHEREAS, cats and dogs that end up in animal shelters may face euthanization if not claimed by their owners or adopted despite the fact that many are young, healthy, and friendly animals; and

WHEREAS, the spaying and neutering of pets can prevent a costly and sad outcome by reducing the number of animals that end up in shelters; and

WHEREAS, Virginians can spay or neuter their own companion animals and support programs in their communities that offer accessible spay and neuter services; and

WHEREAS, veterinarians, humane societies, animal control agencies, and animal welfare organizations can join together to advocate for the spaying or neutering of dogs and cats; and

WHEREAS, the designation of February 28 as Spay Day in Virginia will promote recognition of the importance of spaying or neutering dogs and cats to keep the pet population under control and prevent the unnecessary euthanization of animals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate February 28, in 2012 and in each succeeding year, as Spay Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.