

## 2012 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 358

Offered February 10, 2012

*Commending the Rotary Club of Yorktown.*

Patron—Helsel

WHEREAS, fishing and fellowship create a special bond among the residents of Virginia's Tidewater region, and for 19 years, the Rotary Club of Yorktown has helped forge and strengthen that bond among injured veterans by hosting a semi-annual fishing trip; and

WHEREAS, this outstanding work by the Rotary Club of Yorktown was started by Bill Reiser in 1994; the fishing trip takes place on his boat, and afterward, the group of anglers returns to his home for a picnic, where they share fish tales and compare notes about the ones that got away; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Rotary Club of Yorktown carefully plan and organize this day of fellowship on the water, as specially equipped buses are needed to transport the veterans from the Hampton VA Medical Center and the Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, the dedication and commitment shown by the members of the Rotary Club of Yorktown to the veterans, who are either wheelchair-bound or brought on gurneys, is a prime example of fulfilling the mission of Rotary International of "Service Above Self"; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of the program extend beyond the actual day of the fishing trip; the Yorktown Rotarians clean the veterans' catch and prepare fillets, which are then taken to the hospitals to be enjoyed at an old-time fish fry; and

WHEREAS, by honoring the Rotary International slogan of "Service Above Self" with this fishing excursion, which is enjoyed and anticipated by both Rotarians and veterans alike, the Rotary Club of Yorktown was awarded the district Rotary International Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, district governor Bob Preston, in presenting the International Achievement Award to the Rotary Club of Yorktown, recognized that the fishing trip is an activity that addresses a community need and is a project that can be emulated by other Rotary Clubs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Rotary Club of Yorktown for its generous and successful efforts in hosting a day of fishing, rejuvenation, and fellowship for injured veterans; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Rotary Club of Yorktown as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude and appreciation for providing a day of relaxation on Virginia's beautiful waters to those who defended our great nation.

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