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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 107

Offered January 17, 2012

Commending Surry County.

Patron—Lucas

WHEREAS, Surry County was honored to be selected by America's Promise Alliance and the ING Foundation as one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People in the nation for the second consecutive year; and

WHEREAS, applicants are evaluated on how their community programs facilitate America's Promise Alliance's Five Promises considered essential to the development of children: caring adults, safe places, healthy start, effective education, and opportunity to help others; and

WHEREAS, over 300 applicants from across the United States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico underwent a rigorous selection process based on an evaluation of how their communities work together to help children and families and how their efforts help young people enjoy success at college or in the 21st century workforce; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that the County's most important resource is its youth, the Surry County Board of Supervisors spearheaded the implementation of an Advancing Youth Development Curriculum aimed at creating a shared vision for the community in putting youth first; and

WHEREAS, Surry County High School, which has a 90 percent graduation rate, provides a safe environment and a wide array of course offerings focused on preparing youth to continue their studies at college or to develop the skill set that will enable them to enter the workforce; and

WHEREAS, Surry County's Office on Youth developed a Precious Jewels program, which offers middle school girls the opportunity to learn from mentors the importance of self-respect, nutrition, and social graces; and

WHEREAS, the Surry County Office of the Virginia Cooperative Extension launched a Beyond the High School Years program that educates young people on a wide variety of topics, including completing job applications and phone etiquette; and

WHEREAS, numerous other community groups and organizations have created programs to ensure that the youth of Surry County have the resources they need to succeed in life; and

WHEREAS, the leadership of the Surry County Board of Supervisors and Surry County Public School system coupled with the cooperation and commitment of local community organizations have all led to the recognition of Surry County as one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Surry County on being named one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People by America's Promise Alliance and the ING Foundation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Tyrone W. Franklin, Surry County Administrator, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the County's commitment to youth and families.

INTRODUCED

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