

## 2012 SESSION

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### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 180

Offered February 15, 2012

*Commending Richmond International Raceway on the occasion of its 60th anniversary of operation in the Commonwealth.*

Patron—McEachin

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia is the only state that hosts four NASCAR Sprint Cup races each year, with each race weekend having the equivalent economic impact on the Commonwealth of a Super Bowl; and

WHEREAS, Richmond International Raceway celebrates 60 years of NASCAR racing, with the first NASCAR race won on April 19, 1953, by the legendary Lee Petty; and

WHEREAS, Richmond International Raceway is the only three-quarter-mile track on the NASCAR schedule, and its races are traditionally some of the most exciting and most important on the NASCAR circuit; and

WHEREAS, Richmond International Raceway holds a prestigious position on the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series schedule with the 26th race of the season, deeming it the "One Last Race to Make the Chase"; and

WHEREAS, Richmond International Raceway has hosted two NASCAR Cup race weekends annually since 1959; and

WHEREAS, Richmond International Raceway attracts approximately 95,000 race fans each race weekend and is the venue of enumerable local, charitable, and community activities throughout the year, providing a service to the community through festivals, concerts, consumer shows, trade shows, meetings, charitable events, and fundraisers; and

WHEREAS, the annual economic impact of Richmond International Raceway on the Commonwealth is \$467 million, and races at Richmond International Raceway are viewed and heard around the world; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Richmond International Raceway on the occasion of its 60th anniversary of operation in the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Richmond International Raceway as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for the company's many important contributions to the economies of the Commonwealth.

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