

2012 SPECIAL SESSION I

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12200207D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 622

Offered May 14, 2012

Commending the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter of The Charmettes, Incorporated.

Patron—McQuinn

WHEREAS, the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter of The Charmettes, Incorporated, celebrated 20 years of service to the local community in 2011; and

WHEREAS, The Charmettes, Incorporated, began in 1951 in West Palm Beach, Florida, when Frankie Drayton Thomas and Gwendolyn Baker Rodgers saw the need for young women in the community to come together in fellowship and service to the community; and

WHEREAS, the organization grew and developed over the years, with chapters established in Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Washington, D.C., to promote the civic and social needs of the localities where members reside and to encourage cancer awareness, education, support, and research; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter of The Charmettes, Incorporated, began when Edna P. Rodwell brought together a group of 10 women—Lois Cumber, Evelyn Jamison, Margaret Jones, Marsha Meekins, Etta Caution, Shelia Smith, Sallie Thompson, Delores Tyler, Wilhelmina Williams, and Audrey Winston—at Fifth Baptist Church in October 1990; and

WHEREAS, in January 1991, The Charmettes, Incorporated, founders, Frankie Drayton Thomas and Gwendolyn Baker Rodgers, came to Richmond to meet with the women and on March 9, 1991, representatives from 14 chapters of the organization came to Richmond to support the formation of the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter sponsors a variety of projects to raise cancer awareness; its Cancer Health Forum or Health Fair promotes annual physical examinations and preventative testing, in addition to updates on cancer research; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter also has an Adopt-A-Child with Cancer Program that provides support and encouragement to children with cancer diagnoses and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter's Junior Charmette Program stresses to young girls in the community the importance of serving others and provides training and education to help them through their teenage years; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter also supports other important initiatives, such as the Howard University Cancer Research Center, the American Cancer Society, the Sisters Network, and the ASK Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Clinic at the VCU Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, members of the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter enjoy reaching out to one another and the community through a host of activities, including a dinner theater, Harvest Ball, Tom Thumb Wedding, and cancer benefit musical; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter of The Charmettes, Incorporated, has made many contributions to cancer awareness, research, and education and other community projects during its history and looks forward to continuing to serve the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter of The Charmettes, Incorporated, hereby be commended on the occasion of its 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sala B. Powell, president of the Richmond Metropolitan Chapter of The Charmettes, Incorporated, as an expression of the House of Delegates' congratulations and appreciation for the chapter's contributions to the community.

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