

2013 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 617

Designating June 1, in 2013 and in each succeeding year, as Rotary Day in Virginia.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 18, 2013

Agreed to by the Senate, February 19, 2013

WHEREAS, the Rotary Club of Chicago was founded on February 23, 1905, when Chicago attorney Paul Harris invited three business associates to a meeting to form a club to share "mutual cooperation and informal friendship such as all of us had once known in our villages"; and

WHEREAS, by 1921, Rotary Clubs had been formed on six continents, and the name Rotary International was adopted in 1922; and

WHEREAS, Rotary International consists of 1.3 million members in some 34,000 Rotary Clubs in 166 countries, all committed to their motto "Service Above Self"; and

WHEREAS, Rotary International founded the Rotary Club of Richmond on June 1, 1913; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary Club of Richmond became the first club in Virginia and the 69th club worldwide; and

WHEREAS, since its establishment, the Rotary Club of Richmond has grown from 44 original members to its current 116 members, and it is the second largest Rotary Club in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary Club of Richmond contributed to the founding of over 200 clubs and 11 Rotary Districts across Virginia and the Southeast United States; and

WHEREAS, over 25,000 Rotarians have been members of the Rotary Club of Richmond or its descendent clubs; and

WHEREAS, over the past century, the members of the Rotary Club of Richmond have directed themselves toward meaningful involvement in many beneficial programs and activities throughout their community, and they have distinguished themselves as dynamic local leaders; and

WHEREAS, following Rotary International's motto of "Service Above Self," the dedicated individuals of the Rotary Club of Richmond have donated countless hours of their time to meeting the needs of local residents, and their numerous achievements are truly praiseworthy; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary Club of Richmond and fellow Virginia Rotarians have contributed millions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours to improving their communities and helping to improve the quality of life for their fellow Virginians; and

WHEREAS, Richmond Rotarians, both past and present, willingly and tirelessly give their time, energy, and abilities to better the world around them; throughout its history, the men and women who have affiliated themselves with this fine organization have made a positive impact in the lives of many by raising funds and awareness about important issues that affect the way of life for Richmond residents through such initiatives as Meals on Wheels, Project W.A.R.M., Robikes, PolioPlus, among many other service projects; and

WHEREAS, a remarkable group of people, the members of the Rotary Club of Richmond have combined civic concern and active commitment with selfless initiative to become shining examples for the local area; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary Club of Richmond is grateful for and proud of the diligent efforts of conscientious individuals such as these who enable the Commonwealth to continue to grow and prosper and remain a wonderful place in which to live and work and applauds them on their altruistic efforts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate June 1, in 2013 and in each succeeding year, as Rotary Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to Sakuji Tanaka, president of Rotary International, so that the members of Rotary International may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

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

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