

2013 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 267

Offered January 9, 2013

Prefiled December 11, 2012

Commending Delores Darden.

Patron—Blevins

WHEREAS, Delores Darden, of the Town of Windsor in Isle of Wight County, is commended on her selection as the 2012 Monsanto America's Farmers Mom of the Year for the Southeast Region; and

WHEREAS, the Monsanto America's Farmers Mom of the Year program celebrates the selfless contributions of American farm moms to their farms, communities, and the agricultural industry with five regional winners and one national winner selected from nearly 1,000 nominations; and

WHEREAS, Delores "Dee Dee" Darden, along with her husband, Tommy, own and operate Darden's Country Store, where they cure and sell approximately 1,000 hams each year, and a family farm, where they grow peanuts, cotton, wheat, corn, soybeans, and pumpkins and raise beef cattle; and

WHEREAS, Dee Dee Darden spends countless hours on the farm and with the business in a variety of roles; each year, she welcomes more than 1,500 schoolchildren to the family farm, where they learn where food comes from, enjoy hay rides, and pick pumpkins; and

WHEREAS, Dee Dee Darden has served on numerous local, state, and national commodity boards, including as past president of the Virginia Grain Producers Association and current chair of the Virginia Small Grains Board; and

WHEREAS, as former chair of the National Peanut Board, Dee Dee Darden traveled across the country and around the world promoting the United States peanut industry; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her many family business and farm responsibilities, Dee Dee Darden takes an active role in the community as the Isle of Wight County Supervisor for the Windsor District; and

WHEREAS, a trusted leader, Dee Dee Darden works alongside other supervisors and county officials to ensure the efficient and effective operation of local government and services for area residents; and

WHEREAS, an outstanding farm mom who has made tremendous contributions to her family, community, and the agricultural industry in the Commonwealth and nation, Dee Dee Darden is a worthy recipient of this prestigious honor; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Delores Darden on her selection as the 2012 Monsanto America's Farmers Mom of the Year for the Southeast Region; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Delores Darden as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations on her well-deserved honor and admiration for her public service and contributions to the agricultural industry in Virginia.

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