

2013 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 441

Offered February 18, 2013

Commending Sheri Cooper Osborne.

Patrons—Norment, Howell and Miller; Delegate: Watson

WHEREAS, Sheri Cooper Osborne, Director of Training at Child Development Resources in Williamsburg, retired after 30 years of exceptional service; and

WHEREAS, Child Development Resources (CDR), which opened in 1966 as the Williamsburg Preschool for Special Children, provides screenings and therapy to young children with special needs and offers resources for their parents and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Sheri Osborne joined CDR in 1982 as a training consultant for the Outreach Training and Technical Assistance project; she later assumed many other responsibilities, including grant writing and curriculum development, before becoming the Director of Training in 2001; and

WHEREAS, writing many proposals over the course of her career, Sheri Osborne secured over \$20 million in federal, state, local, and foundation grants for CDR; in addition, she was responsible for the budgeting, management, and oversight for a host of million dollar projects; and

WHEREAS, Sheri Osborne greatly contributed to the knowledge of parents and industry professionals as the principal author of several CDR publications, including the *SpecialCare Curriculum and Trainer's Manual* and *Active Learning for Children with Disabilities*; and

WHEREAS, Sheri Osborne also authored a curriculum on how educators may better include children with special needs in the classroom; the curriculum is still in use at facilities, colleges, and universities around the country; and

WHEREAS, coordinating a wide variety of interagency committees and presenting at over 35 national and state professional conferences, Sheri Osborne is a recognized authority in the field of early childhood development; and

WHEREAS, Sheri Osborne was an outstanding employee and member of the senior leadership team of CDR, allowing the company to grow into an organization that now helps over 1,000 children and their families each year; and

WHEREAS, Sheri Osborne's contributions to the field of early childhood education have been recognized by the Virginia Department of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, the initiative and expertise shown by Sheri Osborne has allowed parents, physicians, therapists, educators, and many other caregivers to assist countless children with special needs in building healthy, successful lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Sheri Cooper Osborne on the occasion of her retirement from Child Development Resources in Williamsburg; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sheri Cooper Osborne as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her tireless efforts to ensure that young children with special needs receive the care they deserve.

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