

## 2013 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 448

Offered February 18, 2013

*Commending the Vinton Host Lions Club.*

Patrons—Smith; Delegate: Head

WHEREAS, the Vinton Host Lions Club, an organization that has served and benefitted the Town of Vinton for decades, celebrated its 80th anniversary in 2012; and

WHEREAS, wishing to better serve their community, a group of local businessmen, physicians, teachers, and a clergyman joined together as the 21 charter members of the Vinton Host Lions Club; and

WHEREAS, assisted by the governor of Lions Club International District 24 and sponsored by the Roanoke Lions Club, the Vinton Host Lions Club was officially founded in February 1932; and

WHEREAS, addressing a host of civic and social concerns in the club's early days, the Vinton Host Lions Club also remembered the words of Helen Keller at the 1925 Lions Club International convention and placed a special emphasis on supporting the blind; and

WHEREAS, with rationing in effect during World War II, the Vinton Host Lions Club assisted the war effort by holding paper and scrap metal drives; and

WHEREAS, after the war, the members of the Vinton Host Lions Club were essential to the construction of the Vinton War Memorial building; and

WHEREAS, the Vinton Host Lions Club played a major role in maintaining and operating the Vinton War Memorial building, decorating the outside with lights for the holidays and helping to build the town's swimming pool on the property; and

WHEREAS, with membership growing rapidly in the 1950s, the Vinton Host Lions Club took on new projects, including the installation of lights on the William Byrd High School football field; and

WHEREAS, the Vinton Host Lions Club has supported other communities by sponsoring or assisting with the foundation of many other Lions Club chapters; and

WHEREAS, the Vinton Host Lions Club's annual fundraiser at Lancerlot Sports Complex has raised over \$150,000 since 1995; in 2011, the club raised over \$10,000 for various projects and causes; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Vinton Host Lions Club has worked with the Boy Scouts of America, the Salvation Army, Toys for Tots, and served the community in many other capacities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Vinton Host Lions Club on the occasion of its 80th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Vinton Host Lions Club as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the club's long tradition of service and tireless work to build a bright future for the Town of Vinton.

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