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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 309

Offered February 12, 2014

*Commending Davida Luehrs.*

Patron—Plum; Senator: Howell

WHEREAS, Davida Luehrs was honored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Cornerstones, Inc., with a prestigious 2014 Best of Reston Award in the Individual Community Leader category; and

WHEREAS, the Best of Reston awards honor individuals, organizations, and companies that have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to helping others and improving the lives of people throughout the greater Reston area; and

WHEREAS, for more than 20 years, Davida Luehrs has worked to serve people who are blind or have low vision; she was diagnosed with a retinal disease 25 years ago, and that life-changing event inspired her life's work of helping others in similar situations; and

WHEREAS, one of Davida Luehrs' missions is to be a link between people who have vision loss and the community organizations that can assist them; she has been a leader in the Northern Virginia chapter of the Foundation Fighting Blindness, the Sterling Lions Club, and the American Council of the Blind; and

WHEREAS, Davida Luehrs helps to educate the medical community about the resources available for the visually impaired; she also shares information about scientific breakthroughs and works tirelessly to share the hope that scientific advances can give to people with low vision; and

WHEREAS, Davida Luehrs helped form the Northern Virginia chapter of the Foundation Fighting Blindness and played a key role in bringing VisionWalk, an annual fundraising event, to Northern Virginia; she also has been involved with other groups that raise awareness of low vision, including Visually Impaired People of Reston; and

WHEREAS, Davida Luehrs has helped to raise funds to fight and prevent vision loss through her work for a Dining in the Dark gala and oversees a free pediatric vision screening program in her role as district sight conservation chair for the Lions Clubs International in the area; and

WHEREAS, Davida Luehrs has been a member of the board of the Herndon High School band and the Herndon Middle School band; she also has volunteered with the Boy Scouts of America, the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, the Reston Swim Team Association, and other nonprofit organizations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Davida Luehrs for her tireless efforts on behalf of people who are blind or have low vision and on her well-deserved honor as a 2014 Best of Reston Award recipient in the Individual Community Leader category; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Davida Luehrs as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for her deep empathy and work with people in the Reston area who are blind or have low vision.

INTRODUCED

HJ309