14104545D SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 123

Offered February 5, 2014

Commending the 10 River Basin Grand Winners of the Clean Water Farm Award.

Patrons—Hanger and Puckett; Delegate: Scott

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WHEREAS, the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts provide farmers throughout the Commonwealth with education, technical assistance, and incentive programs to encourage nutrient reduction and water quality improvement; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly passed legislation in 1998 to establish the Clean Water Farm Award Program, which is administered by the Department of Conservation and Recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Farm Award Program furthers the Commonwealth's water quality goals by recognizing farmers actively engaged in implementing important conservation practices that control nutrients, sediment, and other agricultural nonpoint source pollutants; and

WHEREAS, the Soil and Water Conservation Districts selected local farms across the Commonwealth for recognition in 2013 as winners of the Clean Water Farm Award; and

WHEREAS, ten of those farms were selected and announced at the December 2013 meeting of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts by the Department of Conservation and Recreation to represent the Commonwealth's 10 major river basins and to recognize the exemplary efforts of such farms in implementing best management practices; and

WHEREAS, those 10 winners are:

J. Bill Montgomery, Lee County, for the Big Sandy/Tennessee River Basin;

Seven Springs Farm, Inc., M. J. Moore, Lunenburg County, for the Chowan River Basin;

Sanns Farm, Sue and John Sanns, Accomack County, for the Coastal Basin;

C-Stock Farm, Paul and Virginia Coleman and Paul Coleman, Jr., Albemarle County, for the James River Basin;

Little River Ranch, Earl and Jackie Frith, Floyd County, for the New River Basin;

Dutchland Farm, Inc., Prince William County, for the Potomac River Basin;

Chapman Farm, Claude Chapman, Jr., and Carla Jean Chapman, Fauquier County, for the Rappahannock River Basin;

Kunath Farms, Kerwin Kunath, Charlotte County, for the Roanoke River Basin;

Home Place Dairy, Inc., Rockingham County, for the Shenandoah River Basin; and

James and Kate Kean, Louisa County, for the York River Basin; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend and congratulate the 10 River Basin Grand Winners of the Clean Water Farm Award; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to the 10 River Basin Grand Winners of the Clean Water Farm Award as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for their commitment to conserving the Commonwealth's natural resources and their outstanding conservation achievements.