HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5037

Commending Nancy C. Damon.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, April 8, 2014 Agreed to by the Senate, June 12, 2014

WHEREAS, Nancy C. Damon, the deeply admired longtime program director of the Virginia Festival of the Book, retired in 2014 after 20 years of service; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1994, the Virginia Festival of the Book is a five-day festival of literary events in Charlottesville designed to promote the importance of reading and literacy; it is the largest festival of its kind in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Damon has helped the event grow continuously since its inception; under her able leadership as program director for the past 14 years, the festival has adapted to meet changes in publishing and readership preferences, drawing countless enthusiasts, tourists, and visitors to the Charlottesville area year after year; and

WHEREAS, with her vibrant personality and quick wit, Nancy Damon helped maintain the festival's welcoming and passionate atmosphere and ensured its smooth operation; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Damon earned many awards and accolades for her work with the festival, including the Samuel Miller Memorial Medal from the Miller School of Albemarle for her work to involve children as festival attendees, writers, and program planners; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Damon not only provided readers, writers, and authors with a premier event, but also promoted and supported interest in language and literature; she leaves a legacy of excellence to future leaders of the Virginia Festival of the Book; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Nancy C. Damon on the occasion of her retirement as program director of the Virginia Festival of the Book; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Nancy C. Damon as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her dedication and contributions to the literary community in Charlottesville and throughout the Commonwealth.