

# 2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 516

*Commending Virginia Diner, Inc.*

Agreed to by the Senate, September 18, 2014

WHEREAS, Virginia Diner, Inc., a small business in Wakefield, has served delicious homemade meals and has offered Virginian hospitality to generations of regulars, travelers, and families for 85 years; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1929 by D'Earcy Davis, the Virginia Diner served ham biscuits and Brunswick stew to hungry travelers from a refurbished Surry, Sussex and Southampton Railway car; the diner was purchased by the Monahan family in 1945 and by its current owners, the Galloway family, in 1976; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Diner has grown to become a full service restaurant, open 364 days a year; the friendly, dedicated staff members still serve the same country comfort food that has made the diner a beloved family tradition and attracted many of the same loyal customers for more than 50 years; and

WHEREAS, a well-known resting point for travelers to and from the mountains, the beach, or one of the Commonwealth's fine institutions of higher education, the Virginia Diner has been featured in fiction, served celebrities and former Virginia Governors, and garnered media attention from throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, established in the heart of peanut country, the Virginia Diner is renowned for its succulent peanut pie, and its nuts and confections are available in retail stores nationwide and the diner's online store; and

WHEREAS, as one of the top three private employers in rural Sussex County, the Virginia Diner has provided opportunities and valuable experience to generations of employees; and

WHEREAS, helping to strengthen the future of the Commonwealth, the Virginia Diner has participated in the Virginia's Finest program to mentor countless other small businesses and aspiring restaurateurs over the years; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Diner will commemorate its 85th anniversary with a celebration, beginning on September 25, 2014, to recognize the individuals and families who have helped the diner carry out its long tradition of service to the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Virginia Diner, Inc., hereby be commended on the occasion of its 85th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Christine G. Epperson, the president of Virginia Diner, Inc., as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for the diner's long tradition of service to the residents of and visitors to Sussex County and the Commonwealth.

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