## 2015 SESSION

## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 668**

Commending the Stroke Comeback Center.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 23, 2015 Agreed to by the Senate, January 29, 2015

WHEREAS, in 2014, the Stroke Comeback Center, a nonprofit organization in Vienna, celebrated 10 years of helping survivors of stroke and brain injuries achieve their maximum potential and remain active members of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Stroke Comeback Center (SCC) opened in 2004 to serve survivors living with aphasia and their families; today, the SCC is a nationally respected speech/language center helping members improve communication skills and their quality of life; and

WHEREAS, aphasia is the loss of the ability to speak or understand spoken or written language due to disease or injury of the brain; the Stroke Comeback Center has successfully developed strategies to help people overcome aphasia; and

WHEREAS, the center offers group programs for SCC members; three to six people work with a professional speech language pathologist in nine-week sessions; affordable fees and a sliding scale for low-income families make the Stroke Comeback Center's services available to many people; and

WHEREAS, staff and volunteers at the Stroke Comeback Center help survivors reintegrate and re-engage with their community; support and services also are available to families, as the SCC recognizes that an entire family is affected when one member has a stroke; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Stroke Comeback Center in Vienna on the occasion of its 10th anniversary for its vital work to help stroke survivors improve their ability to communicate in a supportive and peer-driven environment; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Darlene S. Williamson, founder and executive director of the Stroke Comeback Center, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for the organization's mission to help survivors of stroke and brain injury achieve their maximum potential.