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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 721

Offered January 30, 2015

Commending Circle Sales Incorporated.

Patron—Wright; Senator: Ruff

WHEREAS, Circle Sales Incorporated, of Blackstone, a family-owned wholesale beverage distributor, celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2015 of providing a variety of beverages to retail establishments, restaurants, schools, and other customers in South Central Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Circle Sales was founded on April 25, 1955, by J. A. Spencer and E. E. Philips, and a few years later, John and Elizabeth Osborne became affiliated with the company; the couple became the sole owners of Circle Sales in 1971; and

WHEREAS, in the early years, Circle Sales distributed only four brands of beer; the company expanded its offerings in the 1960s to include wine distribution, and nonalcoholic beverages and soft drinks were added to the company's wholesale operations in the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, Circle Sales' headquarters and distribution center is in Blackstone; the current warehouse and office facility opened in 1963 and has been expanded twice; the company's goal is to be recognized by its suppliers and customers as the best beverage distributor in Southside Virginia; and

WHEREAS, today, in its 60th year of operation, Circle Sales serves customers in Nottoway, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Brunswick, Greensville, Sussex, Surry, Dinwiddie, Amelia, Cumberland, Buckingham, Prince Edward, and Charlotte Counties, and the City of Emporia; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Circle Sales' wine distribution has become the largest part of its business; the company proudly represents four Virginia vintners in addition to offering products from nationally known wineries; and

WHEREAS, Walter Mac Osborne, the son of Elizabeth and John Osborne, is president of Circle Sales, and his wife is vice president; the couple, together with 13 dedicated employees, distribute hundreds of beer, wine, and nonalcoholic beverage products each day, quenching the thirst of thousands of Virginians; and

WHEREAS, community involvement is important to Circle Sales Incorporated; Walter Mac Osborne has been a member of the Blackstone Volunteer Fire Department for 40 years, including serving as chief for 10 years, and the company proudly sponsors the Blackstone Summer Cruise In, a gathering of classic car enthusiasts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Circle Sales Incorporated, of Blackstone, a family-owned wholesale beverage distributor, on the occasion of its 60th anniversary of providing a variety of beverages to retail establishments, restaurants, schools, and other customers in South Central Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Circle Sales Incorporated, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and congratulations for being a successful small business in the Commonwealth and best wishes in the future.

INTRODUCED

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