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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 756

Offered February 5, 2015

Commending Assateague Island National Seashore.

Patrons—Bloxom; Senator: Lewis

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WHEREAS, Assateague Island National Seashore, a national park located off the coast of the Delmarva Peninsula, has provided Virginians with opportunities for recreation and enjoyment for five decades; and

WHEREAS, the Assateague Island National Seashore was established by the United States Congress on September 21, 1965, for the purpose of protecting and developing Assateague Island in Maryland and Virginia for public outdoor recreational use; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior through the National Park Service administers Assateague Island National Seashore for the general purposes of public outdoor recreation, including conservation of natural features contributing to public original and

natural features contributing to public enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, located primarily on the Virginia half of Assateague Island, preserves, regulates, and maintains plant and animal life and habitats for the enjoyment of present and future generations; the refuge has drawn millions of visitors to Assateague Island National Seashore; and

WHEREAS, through the cooperation of many federal agencies, plans for beach erosion control and hurricane protection of Assateague Island National Seashore have been accomplished, with protective works resulting in 50 years of resiliency through conservation and beneficial resource management; and

WHEREAS, Assateague Island National Seashore now supports and protects a vibrant local economy based on tourism, natural resource based industries, and outdoor recreation as envisioned by the Commonwealth's Chincoteague-Assateague Bridge and Beach Authority; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Assateague Island National Seashore on the occasion of the park's 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the superintendent of the Assateague Island National Seashore as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for the work of the National Park Service to meet the recreational needs of the Commonwealth and to manage this important barrier island resource for the benefit of future generations.