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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 807

Offered February 12, 2015

Commending Ginny Wray.

Patrons—Adams, Marshall, D.W. and Poindexter; Senator: Stanley

WHEREAS, Ginny Wray, a dedicated and distinguished editor of the *Martinsville Bulletin*, whose work was marked by responsibility and objectivity as she ably served readers in Martinsville and Henry County, retired in January 2015; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, Ginny Wray began working for the *Martinsville Bulletin* as editor of the Accent section, and approximately one year later, she moved to the news desk; she was named managing editor in 1987 and later was promoted to editor; and

WHEREAS, for Ginny Wray, covering Martinsville and Henry County was a never-ending source of news; global economic changes often affected businesses in the area and their employees; she covered laid off or displaced workers as they fought for benefits and searched for work in an uncertain future; and

WHEREAS, local events common to all small communities also were part of the area's daily news; as a reporter, Ginny Wray was known for her incisive questions, and she focused on maintaining neutrality in her writing, setting high standards for herself and her staff; and

WHEREAS, as editor, Ginny Wray garnered much affection and respect from her employees; she was a mentor whose energy and creativity helped motivate the newsroom staff as they focused on the work needed to produce a daily paper, and the stories to come; and

WHEREAS, early in her tenure at the *Martinsville Bulletin*, Ginny Wray married Mike Wray, a photographer for the daily paper, and the couple worked for the newspaper for the rest of their careers; they frequently were awakened at odd hours to cover breaking news stories; and

WHEREAS, Ginny Wray helped guide the *Martinsville Bulletin* during a period of massive change in the newspaper industry; she also helped oversee several redesigns of the publication and played a key role in developing the newspaper's website; and

WHEREAS, in her years in the newsroom, Ginny Wray worked hard to ensure that she and the staff met the deadlines necessary to put out a daily paper; the work was demanding but rewarding, as was the camaraderie she found among her fellow employees; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Ginny Wray on the occasion of her retirement in 2015 as a dedicated and distinguished editor of the *Martinsville Bulletin*, whose work was marked by responsibility and objectivity as she ably served readers in Martinsville and Henry County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Ginny Wray as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for her accomplishments and dedication to journalism and to the people of Martinsville and Henry County.

INTRODUCED

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