

## 2015 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 813

Offered February 12, 2015

*Commending the J. R. Tucker High School Sparky 384 robotics team.*

Patrons—O'Bannon; Senator: Stosch

WHEREAS, the J. R. Tucker High School Sparky 384 robotics team has raised awareness for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education in the Commonwealth and carried out generous educational outreach programs; and

WHEREAS, the Sparky 384 robotics team was established under FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), a nonprofit organization that sponsors science programs, challenges, and competitions to build self-confidence, communication, and leadership skills among students; and

WHEREAS, the Sparky 384 robotics team competes in a yearly robotics challenge, and team members utilize cutting edge technology, such as the roboRIO control system; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness for FIRST and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, the Sparky 384 robotics team has appeared on local television in Charlottesville, in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* and the *VirginiaFIRST* newsletter, and on the WCVE Science Matters website; and

WHEREAS, the Sparky 384 robotics team has partnered with FIRST teams around the Commonwealth to promote the implementation of a FIRST specialty license plate to raise additional awareness of the organization's mission and STEM; and

WHEREAS, the Sparky 384 robotics team has conducted outreach in the community, including workshops on new technology and electrical troubleshooting at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, the Sparky 384 robotics team also created the LEGO Change Kids program to support students in Haiti; the team collected donations to build starter kits for eight Lil' Sparks teams in an effort to create new opportunities for Haitian students; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the J. R. Tucker High School Sparky 384 robotics team for its contributions to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education in the Commonwealth and the world; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the J. R. Tucker High School Sparky 384 robotics team as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the team's achievements and best wishes for the future.

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