HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 194

Commending Claire Seibel.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 8, 2016

WHEREAS, Claire Seibel, a student at Lord Botetourt High School and a member of the school's FFA chapter, was named the 2015 national winner of the National FFA Organization's Fruit Production Proficiency award; and

WHEREAS, Claire Seibel is the first Virginian in recent history to win a national FFA Proficiency award; the Agricultural Proficiency awards honor FFA members who have demonstrated exceptional accomplishments and excellence in a supervised agricultural experience program; and

WHEREAS, at the National FFA Organization's 2015 convention and expo, which was held October 27 through 31, in Louisville, Kentucky, Claire Seibel won one of 49 national proficiency awards for her research and work on fruit production; and

WHEREAS, the FFA's fruit production proficiency award encompasses all of the types of fruit that are produced in the United States; Claire Seibel's family operates a farm and vineyard in western Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Proficiency award program was a challenging endeavor; Claire Seibel performed a great deal of research for the project, and she found that the work and effort were valuable experiences because she learned a great deal—more, perhaps, than many farmers will learn in their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, the research and work that Claire Seibel performed helped her develop practical and specialized skills that can be used in her future career; she gained much valuable workplace experience and learned the value of perseverance; and

WHEREAS, as a national winner of an Agricultural Proficiency award, Claire Seibel won \$1,000 from E. I. Du Pont de Nemours and Company and she also was the only national honoree to receive an all-expense paid trip to Costa Rica; she plans to undertake additional agricultural research there and learn about the country's agri-tourism and agricultural trade; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Claire Seibel hereby be commended for being named the 2015 national winner of the National FFA Organization's Fruit Production Proficiency award; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Claire Seibel as an expression of the House of Delegates' congratulations and admiration for her commitment to agriculture and for her outstanding accomplishment.