SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 138

Commending the Saint Gertrude High School robotics team.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 4, 2016 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 12, 2016

WHEREAS, the Saint Gertrude High School robotics team, of Richmond, won a contract to build a promotional robot for The Girls' Lounge, a nonprofit organization that promotes and advocates for women in industry and the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

WHEREAS, having only three months, the Saint Gertrude High School robotics team built a robot that talks, moves, displays inspirational quotes, distributes business cards, and disassembles to fit into a standard, checkable suitcase; and

WHEREAS, two members of the Saint Gertrude High School robotics team, Molly Powers and Martha Anne Hotinger, accompanied the "Girlbot" to the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas to meet United States Chief Technology Officer Megan Smith and Shelley Zalis, the chief executive officer of The Girls' Lounge, and to walk the floor with top female executives from around the world; and

WHEREAS, Molly Powers and Martha Anne Hotinger were interviewed by multiple media outlets on the project and its importance in inspiring young women to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); and

WHEREAS, the project is a testament to the talent and dedication of the girls of Robotics Team No. 5429, the enthusiastic leadership of the team's coaches and advisers, and the energetic support of the entire Saint Gertrude High School community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Saint Gertrude High School robotics team on designing and implementing a promotional robot that will continue to travel the world and promote women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jeremy Watts, head coach of the Saint Gertrude High School robotics team, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the team's many exceptional accomplishments.