SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 155

Commending Virginia 4-H.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 18, 2016 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 26, 2016

WHEREAS, two Virginia 4-H teams, the Livestock Judging team and Livestock Skillathon team, finished in first place and third place at the North American International Livestock Exposition in November 2015; and

WHEREAS, held in Louisville, Kentucky, the North American International Livestock Exposition is the largest purebred livestock show in the world, and the Virginia 4-H teams competed against many talented opponents; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia 4-H Livestock Judging team finished in first place with 2,525 points, placing first in cattle, fifth in swine, third in sheep and goat, and third in reasons; as the national champion, the team is eligible to represent the United States at the 2016 Royal Highland Show in Scotland; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Virginia 4-H Livestock Judging team—Hannah Craun of Bridgewater, Caley Ellington of Broadway, Matt Ferrari of Purcellville, Sarah Harris of Buchanan, and Blake Hopkins of Louisa—earned several individual awards, with Hannah Craun, Sarah Harris, and Blake Hopkins named as All-Americans for placing in the top 20; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia 4-H Livestock Skillathon team—Gracie Bailey of Woodstock, Tiffany Heishman of Strasburg, John-Robert Helsley of Edinburg, Hailey Shoemaker of Edinburg, and Jerry Funkhouser of Edinburg—finished in third place overall, placing second in identification and quality assurance and sixth in evaluation; and

WHEREAS, in individual rankings for the Virginia 4-H Livestock Skillathon team, John-Robert Helsley placed first in quality assurance and third overall, Hailey Shoemaker placed 10th overall, and Gracie Bailey placed 18th overall; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia 4-H Livestock Judging team and Livestock Skillathon team achieved success with the support of friends, family, and community members and the Virginia 4-H Foundation 4-H Livestock Youth Development Endowment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Virginia 4-H, which fielded two award-winning teams, the Livestock Judging team and Livestock Skillathon team, at the 2015 North American International Livestock Exposition; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia 4-H Livestock Judging team and Livestock Skillathon team as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the teams' achievements and best wishes on future endeavors.