HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 770

Commending Karin's Florist.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 20, 2017 Agreed to by the Senate, January 26, 2017

WHEREAS, Karin's Florist, a locally-owned family business in Vienna, celebrated 60 years of providing gorgeous, unique flower arrangements and top-notch service to customers in Fairfax County in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Karin's Florist was established on October 26, 1956, by Bill Dukas and his father-in-law, George Raptis, and was named for Bill Dukas' first born child; and

WHEREAS, Karin's Florist, which started with four employees, was one of the original stores located in Seven Corners Shopping Center, the first major shopping center to open in suburban Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Karin's Florist moved to its present location in Vienna, which is more than double the space of the previous location, and in 1998, Maris Angolia, daughter of Bill Dukas, took over leadership of the company as president and CEO; and

WHEREAS, Karin's Florist now employees more than 30 people and is well known for its signature touch on all floral bouquets and wraps, and made-to-order gift baskets for all occasions; and

WHEREAS, Karin's Florist could not have been successful for 60 years without amazing loyal customers, some of whom are second and third generation patrons, as well as a terrific staff of top quality designers; and

WHEREAS, Maris Angolia, president and CEO of Karin's Florist, is very involved in the Fairfax community and is the founder of Karin's Gives Back, a program that supports and promotes the good work of Northern Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Maryland charities; and

WHEREAS, Karin's Florist has received numerous awards over the years, including the 2012 Fairfax Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Corporate Citizenship Award for small business, the 2013 Best of Fairfax award, and in 2013 was named the "Best Florist in America" by daytime TV show host Steve Harvey; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Karin's Florist on 60 years of providing outstanding service to loyal customers in Fairfax County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Maris Angolia, president and CEO of Karin's Florist, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the company's six decades of success and deep roots in Fairfax County.