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## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 883**

Offered February 6, 2017

Commending the Wrenn family Fourth of July celebration.

Patron—Tyler

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WHEREAS, the Wrenn family Fourth of July celebration has been an institution in the Emporia community for 50 years; and

WHEREAS, on July 4, 1968, Robert C. Wrenn and Ann W. Wrenn, along with their children, Randi and Bob, hosted their first neighborhood Fourth of July celebration at their home on 304 Church Street to promote patriotism and an appreciation for American history; and

WHEREAS, the Wrenn family Fourth of July celebration starts with a ride on a city fire truck for anyone who wants to participate and features group sing-alongs of patriotic songs; Steven Walker, the Mayor of Charlotte Courthouse, provides a history of the Declaration of Independence while dressed in authentic Colonial garb, and every child in attendance receives an American flag; and

WHEREAS, at the Wrenn family Fourth of July celebration, everyone joins in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to a flag that has flown over the Betsy Ross House, Christ Church of Emporia, Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Monticello, the Capitol of Colonial Williamsburg, the Virginia State Capitol, and the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, after 50 years, the Wrenn family Fourth of July celebration is still going strong, with Randi Kei and Bob Wrenn now joined by their spouses, Kevin Kei and Jeannette Arnold Wrenn, in organizing this beloved local tradition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Wrenn family Fourth of July celebration on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Wrenn family as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its

contributions to the Emporia community.