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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 995

Offered February 16, 2017

Commending the Girl Scouts of the USA.

Patrons—Hester, Aird, Albo, Anderson, Austin, Bagby, Bell, John J., Bell, Richard P., Bloxom, Bourne, Boysko, Bulova, Byron, Campbell, Carr, Cole, Collins, Davis, Edmunds, Fariss, Filler-Corn, Fowler, Gilbert, Greason, Habeeb, Hayes, Helsel, Heretick, Herring, Hodges, Holcomb, Hope, Howell, Hugo, James, Jones, Keam, Kilgore, Knight, Kory, Krizek, Landes, LaRock, Leftwich, Lindsey, Lingamfelter, Lopez, Loupassi, Marshall, D.W., Massie, McQuinn, Miller, Minchew, Miyares, Mullin, Murphy, O'Bannon, Orrock, Peace, Plum, Poindexter, Price, Ransone, Rasoul, Robinson, Rush, Sickles, Simon, Stolle, Sullivan, Torian, Toscano, Tyler, Villanueva, Ward, Ware, Watts, Webert, Wilt and Yancey; Senators: Barker, Black, Carrico, Chase, Cosgrove, Dance, Deeds, DeSteph, Dunnavant, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Hanger, Howell, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Mason, McClellan, McDougale, McPike, Norment, Obenshain, Peake, Petersen, Ruff, Saslaw, Spruill, Sturtevant, Surovell, Vogel, Wagner and Wexton

WHEREAS, in 2017, the Girl Scouts of the USA celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scout Cookie Program, a fundraiser that has evolved into the largest entrepreneurial training program for girls in the world; and

WHEREAS, the first known sale of cookies by Girl Scouts occurred in 1917, when the Mistletoe Troop in Muskogee, Oklahoma, baked cookies and sold them in its high school cafeteria as a service project; and

WHEREAS, from humble beginnings as a way for Girl Scout troops to finance activities, the Girl Scout Cookie Program has evolved into the most powerful and successful financial literacy tool in the world for girls; and

WHEREAS, the Girl Scout Cookie Program teaches five essential skills—goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the fast pace of the modern world, and the Girl Scout Mission to provide girls with learning opportunities for the future, the Girl Scouts launched the Digital Cookie, adding a digital layer to the iconic Girl Scout Cookie Program, that teaches vital 21st century business skills, including e-marketing, digital money management, online dashboard usage, and e-commerce; and

WHEREAS, during the last century of selling these iconic cookies, Girl Scouts have demonstrated their exemplary leadership and philanthropic spirit by using their earnings from cookie sales to do remarkable things within their communities that reflect the organization's important mission; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts consistently drive positive change in their communities thanks in part to the cookie sale, doing what they can to make the world a better place; and

WHEREAS, today, more than 59 million American women are Girl Scout alumnae and 2.7 million girls and adult volunteers are active members; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts in Virginia are served by the Council of the Southern Appalachians, the Black Diamond Council, the Virginia Skyline Council, the Council of the Nation's Capital, the Commonwealth of Virginia Council, the Chesapeake Bay Council, and the Colonial Coast Council; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Girl Scouts of the USA on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scout Cookie Program; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to the seven councils of the Girl Scouts of the USA in Virginia as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's contributions to the lives of girls and young women throughout the Commonwealth and the United States.

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