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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 95

Offered January 30, 2018

Commending the American Heritage Girls.

Patron—Black

WHEREAS, for over 20 years, the American Heritage Girls scouting program has nurtured the spiritual fortitude, character development, community service, and devotion to family and country of thousands of young women across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the American Heritage Girls started in 1995, when Ohio mother Patti Garibay looked to develop a Christianity-centered exploration and development program for girls; and

WHEREAS, starting with just one group of fourth and fifth graders in Cincinnati, the American Heritage Girls have grown to include over 40,000 young women serving in more than 1,000 troops in every state, including several dozen troops in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to "building women of integrity through service to God, family, community, and country," the American Heritage Girls host a variety of activities for young women such as outdoor experiences, badge programs, service projects, and field trips; and

WHEREAS, as they grow, participants in the American Heritage Girls progress through five levels, including Pathfinder, Tenderheart, Explorer, Pioneer, and Patriot; at each level, they can acquire skill badges in everything from cake decorating and creative writing to emergency preparedness and archery; and

WHEREAS, the American Heritage Girls' Virginia-based troops are among the most active in the nation and are led by dedicated volunteers such as Rebecca Stone, who serves as a regional representative and hometown mentor for several troops in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, during more than two decades in operation, the American Heritage Girls program has provided valuable service to communities across the nation and encouraged the development of confidence, personal well-being, and life skills of all its participants; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the American Heritage Girls for their longstanding commitment to developing the spiritual and moral character of young women in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Rebecca Stone, regional representative for the American Heritage Girls, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's service to the community and best wishes for continued success.

INTRODUCED

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