

# 2020 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

20200501D

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 552

Offered August 21, 2020

*Commending Darlene S. Williamson.*

Patron—Kearney

WHEREAS, Darlene S. Williamson, a highly respected speech-language pathologist, retired as executive director of the Stroke Comeback Center in June 2020; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Purdue University and the University of Illinois, Darlene Williamson has cultivated her expertise in post-stroke care and treatment for aphasia over the course of three decades; and

WHEREAS, Darlene Williamson served as a clinic director at The George Washington University before establishing the Stroke Comeback Center in Vienna in 2004 to help stroke survivors with aphasia improve their communication skills and enhance their quality of life; and

WHEREAS, under Darlene Williamson's leadership, the Stroke Comeback Center offered vital support and services to stroke survivors and their families and helped those survivors stay engaged with their communities by improving their speech abilities through group therapy programs; and

WHEREAS, Darlene Williamson has made significant strides in the clinical research and treatment of apraxia, a condition characterized by difficulty performing tasks and planning motor functions; and

WHEREAS, Darlene Williamson served as president of the National Aphasia Association and has given presentations on treatment techniques, supervision, ethics, progressive dementia, aphasia, and apraxia at regional, state, and national events; and

WHEREAS, after her well-earned retirement, Darlene Williamson plans to spend more time with her family, particularly her beloved grandchildren; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Darlene S. Williamson hereby be commended on the occasion of her retirement as executive director of the Stroke Comeback Center; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Darlene S. Williamson as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for her commitment to her patients and contributions to the field of speech-language pathology.

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