

## 2021 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 222

*Commending Staunton Steam Laundry.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 18, 2021

WHEREAS, Staunton Steam Laundry has proudly supported businesses throughout the Commonwealth by offering world-class laundry services for the past 108 years; and

WHEREAS, Staunton Steam Laundry was founded in 1912, when Robert C. Beam, Sr., and his wife, Mae, purchased New Method Laundry in downtown Staunton, and has been family owned and operated ever since; and

WHEREAS, initially dependent upon horse-drawn carriages for its collections and deliveries, in the mid-1920s Staunton Steam Laundry acquired its first truck to facilitate the delivery of laundry and linens to cadets at a local military academy; and

WHEREAS, Robert Beam, Jr., assumed leadership of Staunton Steam Laundry in 1944 and helped the company continue to expand, doubling its customer base over the next 15 years and generating new revenue opportunities through the introduction of mat rentals; and

WHEREAS, the latest generation of leadership, Tom and Lee Beam, worked in various roles at Staunton Steam Laundry throughout their youth, acquiring experience that prepared them to lead the company with sagacity and vision; and

WHEREAS, today, Staunton Steam Laundry operates out of a 50,000-square-foot facility that employs state-of-the-art computerized systems to efficiently and expeditiously launder immense volumes of table and bed linens, towels, mats, and more; and

WHEREAS, every week, Staunton Steam Laundry's fleet of delivery trucks may be seen traveling throughout the Commonwealth, as the company serves more than 250 customers as far away as Maryland; and

WHEREAS, guided by its motto, "Simply Service," Staunton Steam Laundry has established a loyal and satisfied community customer base through its unflagging attention to detail and consistent drive to create value for its clients, large and small; and

WHEREAS, Staunton Steam Laundry applies many innovative strategies to operate sustainably for the benefit of the environment, such as utilizing heat reclamation in its water cycles; recycling and reusing cardboard, textiles, and other materials; and using biodegradable chemicals; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Independent Textile Rental Association, Staunton Steam Laundry coordinates with other companies to share knowledge and foster growth among small businesses in the textile rental industry; and

WHEREAS, through its unwavering commitment to service and value, Staunton Steam Laundry embodies what makes the Commonwealth a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Staunton Steam Laundry hereby be commended for supporting countless businesses throughout Augusta County and the Commonwealth for the past 108 years; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Lee Beam, president and chief executive of Staunton Steam Laundry, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the company's myriad meritorious contributions to the Commonwealth.

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