## **SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 106**

Commending Virginia Girls State.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 25, 1996 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 2, 1996

WHEREAS, in June 1996, Virginia Girls State, sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, will celebrate its 50th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Girls State, in operation in each of the 50 states, provides high school girls with leadership and citizenship training during week-long activities on a college campus; and

WHEREAS, the girls, selected on the basis of leadership, initiative, character, cooperativeness, honesty, physical fitness, and scholarship, meet to learn the mechanics, objectives, and ideals of democracy; and

WHEREAS, the key to the Girls State program is "learning by doing," and the girls who attend the program quickly form cities and political parties, elect officers, hold state conventions, nominate candidates for statewide office, and serve as members of the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, through such intense, practical experience, the participants learn first-hand about the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship and gain the opportunity to participate in the functioning of their government; and

WHEREAS, through its half-century of experience, the American Legion Auxiliary, with the essential assistance of many civic organizations and school clubs, has provided young Americans with invaluable experience in and appreciation for the workings of American democracy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend the American Legion Auxiliary for its 50 years of sponsorship of Virginia Girls State; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the American Legion Auxiliary as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for its exemplary activities on behalf of the youth of Virginia.