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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 41

Offered January 18, 1996

*Commending the Virginia State Association of Parliamentarians.*

Patrons—Woods, Bolling, Holland, Howell, Martin, Miller, Y.B. and Whipple

WHEREAS, the Virginia State Association of Parliamentarians was founded on May 24, 1957, in Newport News; and

WHEREAS, since its founding, the association has promoted throughout the Commonwealth the study of parliamentary law and procedure and its use in the deliberative assemblies of public bodies and private organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia association, its 16 local units, and its individual members serve the citizens of Virginia by providing educational programs on parliamentary law and procedure for individuals, organizations, and the public; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Virginia State Association of Parliamentarians provided parliamentary information and services to 226 local, state, national, and international organizations during 1995, including the White House Conference on Aging; and

WHEREAS, association members also provided instruction in parliamentary law and procedure to 1,257 Virginians through classes and public workshops during 1995; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Virginia Association have advanced the study and use of parliamentary law and procedure through service as officers and members of the board of directors of the National Association of Parliamentarians; and

WHEREAS, by its regard for the rights of the majority, the minority, and the individual, parliamentary law and procedure stands as an historic guardian of our fundamental democratic freedoms; and

WHEREAS, parliamentary law and procedure have guided the legislative process of the Virginia General Assembly since its founding; and

WHEREAS, a distinguished former member of the General Assembly, Thomas Jefferson, wrote the first manual of parliamentary law and procedure published in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the principles of parliamentary law and procedure are, in Thomas Jefferson's words, "the best known to us for managing the debates & obtaining the sense of a deliberative body"; and

WHEREAS, the principles of parliamentary law and procedure contained in Thomas Jefferson's manual remain today a part of the rules of the Senate and the House of Delegates; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State Association of Parliamentarians and its members understand the vital role of parliamentary law and procedure in our democratic institutions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Virginia State Association of Parliamentarians for its continuing dedication to expanding public understanding of the principles and importance of parliamentary law and procedure; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia State Association of Parliamentarians as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for its exemplary activities.

INTRODUCED

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