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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 250

Offered January 15, 1997

Commending the Northern Soil and Water Conservation District.

Patrons—Howell, Barry, Gartlan, Waddell, Whipple and Woods; Delegates: Albo, Brickley, Callahan, Connally, McClure, Mims, O'Brien, Parrish, Rollison, Rust, Scott and Watts

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District's stature as one of the most outstanding among some 3,000 such districts in the United States has long been recognized; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District's education program successfully reaches a broad range of individuals and groups, including homeowners, developers, school systems, elected officials, and county and state agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District has instructed hundreds of teachers in nationally recognized conservation education curricula, including Project WET, Project Wild, Project Aquatic, and Project Learning Tree, and has produced a watershed curriculum guide for seventh-grade teachers entitled Exploring My Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District facilitates a storm-water drain stenciling program whereby communities are educated by volunteers about the dangers of dumping improper material into a storm drain, particularly the effects of such dumping on the Chesapeake Bay; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District offers technical assistance, resource materials, and conservation expertise to students for the science fair, classroom science projects, and the state Envirothon competition; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District provides guidance to horse-farm operators in order that they may comply with Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act requirements; and

WHEREAS, the technical staff of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District has advised and educated hundreds of citizens about soil and stream-bank erosion, drainage and storm-water management, pond problems, and plant materials selection; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of its many wide-ranging educational accomplishments in promoting the conservation of the Commonwealth's invaluable and irreplaceable natural resources, the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts has chosen the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District from among the Commonwealth's 46 conservation districts as the Conservation Education District of the Year for 1996; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly congratulate the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District for winning this prestigious award and commend it as a model for other conservation districts throughout the Commonwealth and the nation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District in appreciation of its efforts to promote measures by which our important environment will be protected and our irreplaceable natural resources may be conserved.

INTRODUCED

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