

2006 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 35

Offered January 11, 2006

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Commending Angie Wilkerson.

Patron—Ruff

WHEREAS, Angie Wilkerson of Keysville was crowned Ms. Wheelchair Virginia 2005 as well as selected second runner-up and honored with the prestigious People's Choice Award at the Ms. Wheelchair America Pageant in July 2005 in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wheelchair Virginia was established in 1974, ran continuously through 1986, was reestablished as a nonprofit organization in 2001, and is dedicated to advocacy and focused on educating the public about the accomplishments, achievements, and needs of disabled Virginians; and

WHEREAS, originally from Clifton Forge/Covington, Angie Wilkerson was diagnosed with a type of Muscular Dystrophy called Friedreich's ataxia at age 12; she graduated from James Madison University with a bachelor's degree in social work and currently provides sensitivity awareness training for Compliance Alliance, an ADA-Title III compliance specialist firm; and

WHEREAS, Angie Wilkerson has received many honors, including a blue ribbon for public speaking in high school, the Covington Rescue Squad's award for proficient use of CPR, and the Muscular Dystrophy Association's personal achievement award for Virginia; and

WHEREAS, during college, Angie Wilkerson was founder and president of CHAMPS, a school and social activity club that helps students with disabilities succeed in university life; and

WHEREAS, a responsible citizen determined to make a difference, Angie Wilkerson has written numerous letters to General Assembly members and members of Congress from Virginia on behalf of students with disabilities, addressing their many needs and concerns; and

WHEREAS, Angie Wilkerson's impressive Ms. Wheelchair platform is "Education of the Americans with Disabilities Act"; and

WHEREAS, enthusiastic and goal-oriented, Angie Wilkerson shares a wonderful life with her husband James and loves new adventures and challenges; and

WHEREAS, an effective and dedicated advocate, Angie Wilkerson travels throughout the Commonwealth to meet with local government leaders and members of the General Assembly to discuss issues of importance to people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, an honest, talented, and remarkable woman, Angie Wilkerson will represent her community and the Commonwealth with great distinction during her reign as Ms. Wheelchair Virginia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend Angie Wilkerson on her selection as Ms. Wheelchair Virginia 2005; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Angie Wilkerson as an expression of the congratulations and best wishes of the General Assembly.

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