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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 85

Offered January 11, 2006

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*Designating March 31, in 2006 and in each succeeding year, as "Civilian Conservation Corps Day" in Virginia.*

Patron—Obenshain

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was established when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Emergency Conservation Work Act on March 31, 1933; and

WHEREAS, the first CCC camp in America, Camp Roosevelt, was established on April 14, 1933, in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth and its citizens are indebted to the remarkable efforts and accomplishments of the thousands of workers who served in the CCC program in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, between 1933 and 1942, more than 3 million men, which included veterans, young adults, and Native Americans, worked on CCC projects in America in forest protection, conservation and natural resources development, and defense work on military reservations; and

WHEREAS, more than 107,000 industrious, skilled, and resourceful workers served in CCC camps located in all regions of the Commonwealth and many settled in Virginia, often with their families, during and after the depression; and

WHEREAS, the product of the proficient labors of the dedicated men who worked in the CCC continues to enrich and fortify the beauty, natural resources, and economic development of communities in Virginia and throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the work of CCC enrollees complemented the establishment of significant Virginia landmarks, as well as helped to preserve natural resources from erosion, woodland disease, and wildlife damage in national and state parks, national and state forests, fish hatcheries, and national military parks; and

WHEREAS, youth enrollees of the CCC learned many job skills, increased personal educational standards, honed socialization behaviors, and became accustomed to camp discipline that enabled them to contribute to the World War II effort and to make lifelong contributions to their families and communities; and

WHEREAS, the outstanding contributions of the CCC workers has helped preserve Virginia's wondrous natural resources and improve the quality of life of all of the citizens of the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly designate March 31, in 2006 and in each succeeding year, as "Civilian Conservation Corps Day" in Virginia in honor of the invaluable service of the 107,000 Civilian Conservation Corps workers who served in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the president of the Camp Roosevelt CCC Legacy Foundation in Edinburg, Virginia, so that its members may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the Senate post the designation of March 31 as "Civilian Conservation Corps Day" in Virginia on the General Assembly's website.

INTRODUCED

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