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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 209

Offered January 29, 2010

Commending Scott and Mendy Sink.

Patrons-Lohr, Edmunds, Knight, Nutter, Poindexter, Scott, E.T. and Shuler

WHEREAS, Scott and Mendy Sink of Blacksburg were recognized January 11, 2010, at the 91st American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting with the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer and Rancher Excellence in Agriculture Award; and

WHEREAS, the award is given annually to an individual or couple who are actively involved in agriculture and the Farm Bureau and other civic organizations, but who do not derive a majority of their income from an owned production agricultural enterprise; and

WHEREAS, a young couple from Blacksburg, Scott Sink is an instructor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at Virginia Tech while Mendy Sink is a property manager and marketing director for an apartment community; and

WHEREAS, together the Sinks are involved with several agricultural enterprises; they operate SES Agricultural Enterprises, which focuses on beef cattle, hay, agritourism, and agricultural services; the Snow Barn, a concession service benefiting Virginia Tech, Radford University, and surrounding communities; and Hethwood Market, which sells fresh produce and other Virginia products; and

WHEREAS, the Sinks are also partners in Little River Produce, which raises sweet corn, pumpkins, and other seasonal items; and

WHEREAS, Scott Sink is president of the Franklin County Farm Bureau and immediate past chairman of the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers Committee, and both Sinks were recently appointed to the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer and Rancher Committee; and

WHEREAS, Scott and Mendy Sink strive to connect young people with agricultural industry mentors and agricultural organizations so that these young people can take the lessons learned and apply them to new and innovative enterprises; and

WHEREAS, both Scott and Mendy Sink have served in various capacities in a variety of community service organizations over the years and have received many awards and accolades for their commitment to excellence and service; and

WHEREAS, as recipients of the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer and Rancher Excellence in Agriculture Award, Scott and Mendy Sink were awarded a 2010 Dodge Ram 1500 truck and paid registration to the 2010 American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer and Rancher Leadership Conference in February; and

WHEREAS, Scott and Mendy Sink represent a young and vibrant part of the agricultural community in the Commonwealth that bodes well for the future of the agricultural industry in the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Scott and Mendy Sink as recipients of the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer and Rancher Excellence in Agriculture Award; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Scott and Mendy Sink as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for their community involvement and commitment to agriculture in the Commonwealth.