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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 261 Offered February 11, 2010

Commending the Asian American residents of Virginia on their celebration of the Lunar New Year.

Patron—Rust, Ebbin, Keam, Kory and Sickles

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia has many Asian American residents who will celebrate the Lunar New Year on February 14, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Lunar New Year or Spring Festival, with centuries old origins, is the most important of the traditional Chinese holidays, and usually begins on the first day of the first month in the Chinese calendar and ends on the 15th day of the first month; and

WHEREAS, the new year of 2010 will be the Year of the Tiger, the third year in the 12-year cycle of the Chinese zodiac; each year in the 12-year cycle is named after an animal; and

WHEREAS, one of the most dynamic signs in the zodiac, the Tiger is seen as the powerful "King of the Jungle"; the Tiger's stripes are admired and viewed as symbolizing the balancing forces of "yin" and "yang"; and

WHEREAS, the Year of the Tiger is believed to be marked by change on many levels, from personal to worldwide; individuals who are born in Tiger years are seen as benefitting from luck or good fortune during a Tiger year; and

WHEREAS, many Asian American residents of Virginia will have the opportunity to celebrate the Lunar New Year and the Year of the Tiger in 2010 and share their rich cultural heritage with other Virginians; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Asian American residents of Virginia on their celebration of the Lunar New Year; and, be

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to the Asian American residents of Virginia as represented by the Hope Chinese School and Silver Light Senior Association as an expression of the General Assembly's best wishes for a successful and prosperous new year.