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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 348

Offered February 25, 2010

*Commending the Sheraton and the Westin hotels in Reston Heights.*

Patrons—Plum and Rust; Senator: Howell

WHEREAS, the Sheraton and the Westin hotels in Reston Heights were honored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Reston Interfaith, Inc., with prestigious 2010 Best of Reston Awards; and

WHEREAS, the Best of Reston Awards were established to recognize individuals, businesses, and organizations that have demonstrated a strong commitment to serving the Reston community and improving the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, the Sheraton and the Westin hotels located in Reston Heights are committed to giving back to the Reston community; and

WHEREAS, both Reston Heights hotels' customer service scores are consistently in the top 10 percent of all Sheratons and Westins in North America, but what makes the Reston Heights hotels so special is that their "customer service" extends to assisting the greater Reston community; and

WHEREAS, the managers and supervisors of both the Sheraton and the Westin hotels care about their employees and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Sheraton and the Westin hotels provide tuition assistance to employees who are interested in furthering their hospitality industry careers, and the hotels' general managers support employees and help them realize their professional goals; and

WHEREAS, the Sheraton and the Westin hotels offer long-term employment for many people with physical and mental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Sheraton and the Westin hotels' management actively seeks out opportunities to help citizens in need and to improve the quality of life in the neighborhoods of Reston; and

WHEREAS, the Sheraton and the Westin hotels donate over 150 complimentary rooms and meals each year for charity auctions and community activities, such as Senior Ethics Day for South Lakes High School, the Walker Nature Education Center's annual Nature House 5K Fund Run, the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, and the Festival on the Square/Reston Interfaith Help the Homeless Walkathon sponsored by Fannie Mae; and

WHEREAS, the Sheraton and the Westin hotels' employees also get directly involved in community service in a variety of ways, including helping distribute donated turkeys to Herndon-Reston FISH at Thanksgiving, serving meals to the homeless at the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, feeding hungry children through Share Our Strength's Chefs on Bikes initiative, and collecting donations for the National Diabetes Association and Toys for Tots; and

WHEREAS, the Sheraton and the Westin hotels are committed to being partners with the Reston community to make it a better place to live, work, and enjoy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend and congratulate the Sheraton and the Westin hotels in Reston Heights on their outstanding service to the residents of Northern Virginia and on their well-deserved honor as 2010 Best of Reston Award recipients; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to the Sheraton and the Westin hotels in Reston Heights as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation of their many achievements on behalf of the community of Reston and best wishes for continued success.