

2011 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 409

Offered January 28, 2011

Commending Thurston Spring Service Inc.

Patron—Watkins

WHEREAS, Thurston Spring Service Inc., a family owned and operated suspension and repair service business located in Richmond, celebrates 100 years of providing its customers with outstanding service in 2011; and

WHEREAS, the history of Thurston Spring Service Inc. began in 1911 when most people traveled by horseback or by carriage or wagon; Marion C. "Mac" Thurston decided to open a business that provided essential carriage and wagon building as well as blacksmithing services; and

WHEREAS, opened under the name of M.C. Thurston at 1542 West Cary Street, the business operated successfully for many years under the astute guidance of Mac Thurston; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the transportation industry began to shift from the horse and wagon or carriage to the automobile and Mac Thurston wisely saw the need to transition his business to one focused on automobiles; and

WHEREAS, Mac Thurston began to learn about and build high-quality springs and suspensions for automobiles and trucks and eventually shared his extensive knowledge with his son, Fleming A. "Bill" Thurston; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, Bill Thurston began to teach welding to others and the company became known as Auto Spring Service, reflecting the focus of the business; and

WHEREAS, the 1950s brought many changes to Auto Spring Service as its beloved founder, Mac Thurston, passed away and his son, Bill Thurston, took the helm; the business also relocated to 314 West 7th Street; and

WHEREAS, in 1959, Auto Spring Service was incorporated and in 1968, changed its name to Thurston Spring Service Inc., while Bill Thurston continued to lead the company as it offered front end alignments on cars and trucks, spring sales and service, and suspension parts; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, the third generation of Thurstons, Sandra and Fleming A. "Billy" Thurston, took over the operation of the prospering company when their father became ill, continuing to stay abreast of industry changes and focusing on providing exceptional customer service; and

WHEREAS, throughout its century of existence, Thurston Spring Service Inc. has adhered to fair and honest business practices, created a supportive work environment for its employees, and established itself as a leader in the Richmond area for quality service; and

WHEREAS, Thurston Spring Service Inc. looks forward to celebrating its historic past and carrying on its proud traditions into the future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend Thurston Spring Service Inc. on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Thurston Spring Service Inc. as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the company's long and successful history based on providing quality customer care.

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