

## 2012 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 304

Offered February 1, 2012

*Commending Boaz & Ruth, Inc.*

Patron—McClellan

WHEREAS, Boaz & Ruth, Inc., a nonprofit community revitalization and employment training organization centered in Richmond's Highland Park, celebrates its 10th year of service in 2012; and

WHEREAS, with funding from religious and corporate organizations, Boaz & Ruth has restored abandoned buildings and homes, created employment opportunities, and changed lives; before Boaz & Ruth began its work in Highland Park, as many as 80 percent of the community's buildings were boarded up or abandoned; and

WHEREAS, the Highland Park neighborhood has begun to re-emerge as a hub of small business enterprise and neighborhood activity, in large part as a result of Boaz & Ruth's revitalization work; and

WHEREAS, Boaz & Ruth's successful vocational training efforts for criminal offenders have resulted in a recidivism rate of less than 12 percent among people who have completed the organization's job training and support programs; and

WHEREAS, the spirit of Boaz & Ruth is exemplified in the tireless work of its chief executive officer, Martha Rollins, who has been part of an emerging business and community renaissance in the historic neighborhood; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Boaz & Ruth, Inc., for its decade of working to restore lives, communities, and relationships; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Martha Rollins, chief executive officer of Boaz & Ruth, Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and best wishes for future success.

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