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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 473

Offered February 29, 2012

*Commending Becky Wales.*

Patrons—Marshall, D.W. and Merricks; Senators: Ruff and Stanley

WHEREAS, Becky Wales, who has dedicated countless hours over the past 17 years to helping the residents of the City of Danville and Pittsylvania County as executive director of God's Storehouse food pantry, has announced her retirement in 2012; and

WHEREAS, a compassionate and skilled administrator, Becky Wales has wisely overseen God's Storehouse as it relocated and expanded over the years and faced an increased need for its services; and

WHEREAS, Becky Wales joined God's Storehouse when the food pantry was located at Wooding Avenue and worked to relocate the facility to Westover Drive and then to the former Danville Chrysler-Plymouth building; and

WHEREAS, as the Danville-Pittsylvania area faced economic decline, God's Storehouse experienced a substantial increase in the need for its services; and

WHEREAS, in 2004 God's Storehouse distributed 16,716 boxes of food; in 2011 that number increased to 27,921 boxes, a 67 percent increase; and

WHEREAS, many area families have enjoyed healthy meals during the holiday season as a result of Becky Wales' efforts; and

WHEREAS, in 2004 God's Storehouse distributed 7,091 boxes during the month of December; in 2011 that number increased to 17,855 boxes; and

WHEREAS, when faced with dwindling food supplies and bare shelves, Becky Wales has demonstrated great resourcefulness and determination, reaching out to community members for support and prudently using monetary donations to secure the most amount of food at the best prices; and

WHEREAS, a vital member of the community, Becky Wales has devoted considerable time and energy to ensuring that those facing difficult times have one of the basic necessities of life, food to eat; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Becky Wales on the occasion of her retirement as executive director of God's Storehouse; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Becky Wales as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and respect for her commitment to serving those in need.

INTRODUCED

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