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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 626

Offered January 9, 2013

Prefiled January 7, 2013

Designating January 23, in 2013 and in each succeeding year, as Companion Animal Protection Day in Virginia.

Patron—Kory

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, there are nearly 80 million companion dogs and over 90 million companion cats in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of companion animal ownership are enjoyed by an estimated 100 million Americans, including four million Virginians; and

WHEREAS, companion animals provide not only loyalty and love to their owners, but in many cases, therapeutic and emotional support as well; and

WHEREAS, companion animals are all too often the victims of cruelty and abuse; and

WHEREAS, the Humane Society of the United States and its affiliate in Virginia have worked tirelessly and effectively for the protection of companion animals for many years; and

WHEREAS, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) has been a tireless voice for animal welfare; and

WHEREAS, it has been shown that animal abuse is often an indicator of dysfunctional human relations and domestic violence as well; and

WHEREAS, companion animal advocates assemble in Richmond each year during the General Assembly session to give voice to their support for legislation enhancing the protection of companion animals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate January 23, in 2013 and in each succeeding year, as Companion Animal Protection Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.

INTRODUCED

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