

2013 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 895

Offered February 13, 2013

Commending Taylor Justice.

Patron—Minchew

WHEREAS, Taylor Justice, a 13-year-old Middleburg resident, climbed Mount Kilimanjaro as a member of a team with Climb for Conservation, an Aspen-based nonprofit group, reaching Uhuru Point, the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro at 19,341 feet above mean sea level and the highest point in Africa; and

WHEREAS, after being first exposed to mountaineering as a baby on her mother's back, Taylor Justice is an accomplished hiker, climber, and skier; and

WHEREAS, showing concern for the safety of her fellow skiers, Taylor Justice has been a loyal member of the Buttermilk Mountain Ski Patrol in Aspen, Colorado, for two seasons, starting when she was 11 years old; and

WHEREAS, in June 2012, Taylor Justice climbed over Salkantay Pass at Machu Picchu and after this climb, put her ski patrol training to the test when she heroically aided a man who had fallen 30 feet and broken both of his wrists; and

WHEREAS, already sympathetic to the plight of endangered animals, Taylor Justice learned of the Climb for Conservation team and was asked to join them on their Mount Kilimanjaro trip; and

WHEREAS, Taylor Justice started a grueling training regimen to prepare for her trek up Mount Kilimanjaro, climbing Aspen Mountain and running 12 miles a week; and

WHEREAS, Taylor Justice and the rest of the Climb for Conservation team achieved success on her summit of Mount Kilimanjaro on November 30, 2012; and

WHEREAS, raising \$12,000 on her climb, Taylor Justice secured a considerable donation for the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary, which preserves the critically endangered African black rhinoceros; and

WHEREAS, Taylor Justice is an exceptional example of what can be achieved through hard work, persistence, and a noble spirit; she is an inspirational role model for young people in the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Taylor Justice for reaching the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Taylor Justice as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and respect for her accomplishments in mountaineering and service to her fellow human beings and living creatures on the earth and best wishes on her future endeavors.

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