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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 425

Offered February 18, 2013

*Commending the Portsmouth Chapter, The Links, Incorporated.*Patron—Lucas

WHEREAS, the Portsmouth Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, will be providing support and sisterhood to women veterans as they transition back to civilian life through the 2013 - 2014 women's issues initiative—Honoring Our HERoes; and

WHEREAS, as of September 30, 2011, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs estimated the total number of women veterans in the United States and Puerto Rico at 1,853,690 with Virginia having one of the highest numbers of women veterans in the nation with 93,637; and

WHEREAS, the Portsmouth Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, recognized that women veterans often face unique challenges when transitioning back to civilian life and decided to participate in Honoring Our HERoes, an initiative developed by Dr. Marcella Maxwell, chair of the Eastern Area, The Links, Incorporated, Women's Issues Committee, and other interested members; and

WHEREAS, the Portsmouth Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, under the leadership of its president, the Honorable Cynthia P. Morrison, will adopt two African American women veterans, with chapter members serving as their mentors and success coaches; and

WHEREAS, the Portsmouth Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, will work with local community colleges, veterans centers, American Legions, and other organizations to identify and match local women veterans with chapter members; and

WHEREAS, the Portsmouth Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, will honor the remarkable accomplishments and service of women veterans from Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Yorktown, who represent the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard on March 19, 2013, at Woodrow Wilson High School in Portsmouth; and

WHEREAS, the Portsmouth Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, will provide invaluable support and sisterhood to women veterans who have so faithfully served the nation through the Honoring Our HERoes initiative; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Portsmouth Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, on supporting women veterans through the Honoring Our HERoes initiative; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Honorable Cynthia P. Morrison, president of the Portsmouth Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's commitment to helping women veterans transition back to civilian life.

INTRODUCED

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