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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 141

Offered January 13, 2014

Commending the Boy Scouts of America Heart of Virginia Council.

Patrons—Carr, Dance, Loupassi, McQuinn, O'Bannon and Scott; Senators: Marsh, McDougale, McEachin and Watkins

WHEREAS, in 2013, the Boy Scouts of America Heart of Virginia Council celebrated its 100th anniversary of building the leaders of tomorrow by preparing young people to make ethical and moral choices throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America has provided programs and outdoor adventures to thousands of young people; with the help of trained volunteer leadership and expert staff, Scouting inspires its members to pursue leadership, character, and service; and

WHEREAS, the Heart of Virginia Council was established in 1913 and was first known as the Richmond, Virginia Council, Inc.; its founding leaders were John Stewart Bryan and D. W. Durrett, along with 60 other community leaders; and

WHEREAS, as one of the 284 local councils that comprise the Boy Scouts of America, the Heart of Virginia Council focuses on providing positive influences for the young people who take part in the Scouting adventure; and

WHEREAS, the Council's mission is to prepare young people in central Virginia for a lifetime of good character, self-reliance, ethical decision-making, and leadership through the programs and outdoor adventures that are the hallmark of a Scout's experience; and

WHEREAS, in the past 100 years, Scouting has remained a vibrant and relevant force in central Virginia; thousands of young people have joined the Boy Scouts of America and have benefitted from the camaraderie, fellowship, and adventure that Scouting provides, and the organization's future looks bright; and

WHEREAS, as part of its mission, the Boy Scouts of America works to reflect the country's ethnic diversity and emphasizes development of responsible citizens; and

WHEREAS, among the many activities held to celebrate the Council's 100th anniversary were an early promotion for some 150 special supporters at a Governor's Mansion reception, a Friends of Scouting banquet with 800 financial supporters, and a 100th anniversary encampment attended by more than 5,000 Scouts, leaders, and parents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Boy Scouts of America Heart of Virginia Council on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to Christopher J. Habenicht, president of the Heart of Virginia Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and Bradford M. Nesheim, scout executive of the Council, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for its positive influence in the Commonwealth and best wishes for the future.

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