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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 187

Offered March 3, 2014

*Commending the City of Norfolk.*

Patrons—Lewis; Delegate: James

WHEREAS, the City of Norfolk is one of the Commonwealth's vibrant cities, comprising a network of unique neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the neighborhood of West Freemason in the City of Norfolk has a well-documented history dating back to the Revolutionary War; and

WHEREAS, West Freemason was the first neighborhood to be rebuilt after the city was nearly leveled during the Revolutionary War and still contains homes dating back to the 1790s, with many architectural styles; and

WHEREAS, West Freemason retains the City of Norfolk's oldest surviving cobblestone paving, granite curbs, cast iron fences, and brick sidewalks characteristic of early Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the architecture and infrastructure, the citizens of West Freemason represent an integral part of the neighborhood's preservation and revitalization efforts; and

WHEREAS, by utilizing community planning and public/private partnerships between entities such as the Freemason Street Association and the Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority, West Freemason balances historic preservation, public green spaces, and economic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the neighborhood of West Freemason in the City of Norfolk showcases the elements of form, character, and environment required for designation as one of the American Planning Association's Great Neighborhoods in their annual designation of "Great Places in America"; and

WHEREAS, West Freemason in the City of Norfolk was recognized by the American Planning Association as a "2013 Great Neighborhood" in their annual designation of "Great Places in America"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the City of Norfolk on the occasion of the award and designation by the American Planning Association as a "2013 Great Place in America: Great Neighborhood" for West Freemason; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the City of Norfolk, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the city's contributions to the Commonwealth and nation.

INTRODUCED

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