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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 352**

Offered February 24, 2016

*Commending the American Association of University Women of Falls Church.*

Patrons—Simon and Watts; Senators: Favola, Howell and Saslaw

WHEREAS, in 2015, the American Association of University Women of Falls Church proudly celebrated its 65th anniversary of empowering women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research; and

WHEREAS, the Falls Church branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) was founded in 1950; members of AAUW branches have joined together to help solve social and civic problems and develop and promote the association on a state and regional level; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Falls Church branch of AAUW provide scholarships, fellowships, and small project grants to deserving students; all funds are raised through the nonprofit group's popular used book sale; and

WHEREAS, the Falls Church branch of AAUW also offers many programs for its members, including guest speakers, book discussion groups, a recently expanded Lobby Corps, joint meetings with neighboring AAUW chapters, and a popular holiday party; and

WHEREAS, the Falls Church branch of AAUW consistently ranks highly in the Commonwealth for its fundraising efforts, and the group has a long-standing reputation as one of the state's highest per capita fundraising chapters; and

WHEREAS, since 1991, the Falls Church branch of AAUW has contributed \$68,000 to the organization's National Career Development Program, created a \$100,000 endowment that awards American fellowships in the humanities, and established its own Career Development program; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Falls Church branch of AAUW have also been generous donors locally; the group has funded 100 college scholarships worth more than \$88,000 for girls in the Falls Church area; and

WHEREAS, special project grants have been awarded by the Falls Church branch of AAUW to help organize an AAUW student branch at George Mason University, support two organizations that assist families and teenage girls in need, provide funds for college tours for high school students, and send Latina students to workshops focusing on careers in science, technology, engineering, and math; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Falls Church branch of AAUW celebrated the organization's 65th anniversary at a gala brunch on November 7, 2015; they listened to a recent fellowship recipient discuss her research and new book and also heard a storyteller describe how her life was profoundly influenced by her high school mentor; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the American Association of University Women of Falls Church on the occasion of its 65th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the American Association of University Women of Falls Church as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for its steadfast dedication to advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

INTRODUCED

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