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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 133

Offered January 28, 2016

*Commending S. Wallace Edwards & Sons, Inc.*

Patrons—Lucas; Delegate: Tyler

WHEREAS, S. Wallace Edwards & Sons, Inc., of Surry County, a noted purveyor of delectable Virginia country hams, bacon, Surry sausage, and other quality foods, has served the Commonwealth and lovers of fine food for 90 years; and

WHEREAS, the S. Wallace Edwards & Sons company started serendipitously in 1926 when S. Wallace Edwards, Sr., captain on the Jamestown-Surry ferry, began selling ham sandwiches to his passengers; and

WHEREAS, demand grew for the tasty sandwich, and soon Wallace Edwards, Sr., began curing hams on a full-time basis; handwritten company records from 1926 indicate that his first customers for whole hams were "two tourists"; and

WHEREAS, S. Wallace Edwards & Sons uses a traditional method that has been a staple of Virginia fare since Colonial daysto produce a deliciously dry cured Virginia ham; and

WHEREAS, this method of curing was an Indian tradition and English colonists adopted their method and passed it down to succeeding generations—Wallace Edwards, Sr., learned how to prepare country ham from his mother and father; and

WHEREAS, S. Wallace Edwards & Sons is run by Sam Edwards III, who is following in the footsteps of his father, Wallace Edwards, Jr., and his grandfather, Wallace Edwards, Sr., relying on their knowledge of curing meat and their insistence on business integrity and quality products; and

WHEREAS, S. Wallace Edwards & Sons continues to have family members and dedicated staff working to grow the business and to maintain its goal of making the best possible products; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend S. Wallace Edwards & Sons, Inc., for 90 years of producing quality Virginia foods; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sam Edwards III, cure master and chief executive officer of S. Wallace Edwards & Sons, Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the company's commitment to culinary excellence.

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