

## 2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 52

*Commending the Garden Club of Virginia.*

Agreed to by the Senate, March 7, 2018

WHEREAS, 2018 marks the 85th anniversary of the Garden Club of Virginia's Historic Garden Week, which has occurred every year since 1929 except for a period during World War II, making it one of the oldest volunteer tourism projects in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Garden Club of Virginia is to restore historic gardens and landscapes, conserve Virginia's natural resources, inspire a love of gardening, and provide education for its members and the general public; and

WHEREAS, during the Garden Club of Virginia's Historic Garden Week, 29 tours occur over eight consecutive days, featuring 131 private homes and gardens and dozens of historic properties for a total of 181 sites across the Commonwealth; this popular statewide event will take place April 21-28, 2018, and attract over 26,000 visitors to Virginia, many of whom travel from all over the world; and

WHEREAS, Garden Club of Virginia's Historic Garden Week represents one of the largest ongoing volunteer efforts in the Commonwealth and is a coordinated effort among 47 local garden clubs and more than 3,300 volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the entire proceeds of the Garden Club of Virginia's Historic Garden Week are used for the restoration and preservation of Virginia's historic public gardens, including Monticello, Montpelier, Mount Vernon, and the grounds of the Executive Mansion, to name just a few of the nearly 48 active restoration projects across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the economic impact of the Garden Club of Virginia through Historic Garden Week over the last 45 years is more than \$425 million; and

WHEREAS, the 85th anniversary of the Garden Club of Virginia's Historic Garden Week has already received significant media exposure, as the event will be featured in publications such as *Garden & Gun*, *Virginia Living*, *Horticulture*, and *Flower*; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Garden Club of Virginia hereby be commended on the occasion of the 85th anniversary of its Historic Garden Week; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Garden Club of Virginia as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for the organization's important work to preserve the history and heritage of the Commonwealth.

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