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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 390

Offered February 11, 2019

Commending Roz Rakoff.

Patron—Howell

WHEREAS, Roz Rakoff, a retired social worker who goes above and beyond to support her fellow members of the Reston community as a prolific volunteer, was honored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Cornerstones, Inc., with a prestigious 2019 Cornerstones of Our Community Best of Reston Award; and

WHEREAS, the Best of Reston awards honor individuals, organizations, and companies that have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to helping others and improving the lives of people throughout the Greater Reston area; and

WHEREAS, Roz Rakoff pursued a career as a clinical social worker for 20 years, supporting many people in the community, but primarily working with teachers; prior to her career as a social worker, she promoted literacy and the importance of a good education as a librarian; and

WHEREAS, best known for her volunteer efforts, Roz Rakoff has strengthened the fabric of the Reston community through her unfailing kindness and exceptional generosity, donating countless hours of her time and tens of thousands of dollars to support worthy causes; and

WHEREAS, Roz Rakoff helps to ensure that young people in the community have the food and supplies they need to focus on their studies by volunteering at the South Lakes High School PTSA Food Pantry every week; in addition to purchasing food and collecting donations, she builds personal relationships with students to ensure that their unique needs are met; and

WHEREAS, Roz Rakoff has supported one such student, a single mother, by helping her obtain child care, purchasing baby clothes and other items, and encouraging her to stay in school and graduate, exemplifying the special care and attention she provides to individuals throughout the Reston community; and

WHEREAS, Roz Rakoff for many years helped to plan and manage the annual Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival and has offered her time and support to Cornerstones, Giving Circle of Hope, and A Simple Gesture-Reston; her compassion for others is rivaled only by her profound humility; and

WHEREAS, Roz Rakoff is a founding member of Shoreshim, a synagogue that has served Reston residents for 50 years, and she was named by the Reston Historic Trust as a Woman Pioneer of Reston for her decades of work in community development; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Roz Rakoff for her legacy of contributions to the Reston community as a volunteer and on the well-deserved honor as a 2019 Best of Reston award recipient; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Roz Rakoff as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her enduring commitment to making Reston a special place to live, work, and play.

INTRODUCED

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