

# 2019 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 4041

*Commending Laura Ann Loomis.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, July 9, 2019

WHEREAS, Laura Ann Loomis of Arlington, a tireless champion of America's national parks for the past 43 years, retired in June 2019; and

WHEREAS, Laura Loomis was born and raised in Illinois, earning a degree in zoology from the University of Illinois before moving to the Washington, D.C., area in the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, Laura Loomis dedicated her entire professional career to the National Parks Conservation Association, an organization whose mission is "to protect and enhance America's National Park System for present and future generations"; and

WHEREAS, Laura Loomis began her career as a program secretary, rising over the years to become her organization's Deputy Vice President of Government Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Laura Loomis made immeasurable contributions to America's national parks; she was instrumental in the creation of the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, which was established in 1996 to protect one of the last remnants of the tallgrass prairie ecosystem; in recent years, she was a leading advocate for improving the national park transportation system to ensure visitors could easily enjoy the parks without damaging their pristine beauty; and

WHEREAS, Laura Loomis has supported her community admirably as cochair of Association 60 of the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital, helping over 4,000 girls and 600 volunteers in Arlington and Alexandria make the most of their scouting experience; for her decades of service to the Girl Scouts, the council presented her the Sustained Service Award in 2019; and

WHEREAS, Laura Loomis inspires countless individuals by demonstrating what can be accomplished through compassion, dedication, and hard work; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Laura Ann Loomis, a tireless champion of America's national parks for the past 43 years, hereby be commended on the occasion of her retirement; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Laura Ann Loomis as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for her contributions to America's national parks and the communities of Arlington and Alexandria.

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