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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 125

Offered February 17, 2020

Commending Lily Wilson Huffman.

Patrons—Hanger; Delegate: Avoli

WHEREAS, Lily Wilson Huffman, a former educator and longtime member of the Staunton community, was crowned Ms. Virginia Senior in 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Ms. Virginia Senior America pageant was established in 1984 to honor the dignity, maturity, and elegance of women in the Commonwealth, promoting the wisdom and experience seniors provide in creating a foundation for younger generations to achieve greatness; and

WHEREAS, a 12th generation Virginian who can trace her lineage to John Rolfe, Pocahontas, President Zachary Taylor, and First Lady Edith Bolling Wilson, Lily "Lilchy" Huffman has called several parts of the Commonwealth home throughout her life, including Richmond, Rockingham County, Fairfax County, Prince William County, and Staunton; and

WHEREAS, receiving a bachelor's degree in home economics education from Bridgewater College in 1968, Lilchy Huffman embarked on an illustrious teaching career that spanned over three decades and took her all over the world; and

WHEREAS, starting at West Springfield High School in Fairfax County and earning a master's degree in counselor education from the University of Virginia in 1971, Lilchy Huffman subsequently taught for the Department of Defense Dependent Schools in Bamberg, Germany, in the early 1970s; and

WHEREAS, later, over a 26-year tenure with Prince William County Public Schools and a three-year stint with Manassas City Public Schools, Lilchy Huffman's career highlights included induction into the Phi Delta Kappa honor fraternity for professional educators in 1985 and the opportunity to lead an oral English workshop at a university in Wuxi, China, in 1992; and

WHEREAS, retiring to Staunton and her beloved Blue Ridge Mountains, Lilchy Huffman has been an active and engaged member of the community for many years; volunteering each August for the world-renowned Staunton Music Festival, she also works tirelessly on behalf of Trinity Episcopal Church in Staunton, for which she serves a Eucharistic minister, lay reader, usher, member of the vestry, and in other leadership roles; and

WHEREAS, Lilchy Huffman has charmed countless audiences through her portrayals of her cousin, Edith Bolling Wilson, at events held by the Edith Bolling Wilson Birthplace Museum in Wytheville and the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library in Staunton; and

WHEREAS, along with winning several awards for her cross-stitch and needlepoint work, Lilchy Huffman was the recipient of the MVSA Community Service Award in 2017 for her service with Trinity Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, embodying the ideals of the Ms. Virginia Senior America pageant through her spirit and dedication, Lilchy Huffman has brought great distinction to the Commonwealth and been an inspiration to all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Lily Wilson Huffman, a former educator and longtime member of the Staunton community, who has impacted the lives of innumerable Virginians, for being crowned the 2019 Ms. Virginia Senior; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Lily Wilson Huffman as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her achievement and best wishes for the future.

INTRODUCED

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