

2023 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 145

Commending Stephen Snyder.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 21, 2023

WHEREAS, Stephen Snyder, of the Checkered Flag Auto Group in Virginia Beach, is the 2023 *TIME* Dealer of the Year nominee for Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Checkered Flag Auto Group was founded by Stephen "Steve" Snyder's father, Edward Snyder, in 1964, continuing the family's impact on the retail industry in Hampton Roads that began with the family's L. Snyder's Department Store, which was founded in Norfolk in 1894; and

WHEREAS, Steve Snyder, whose career in the auto industry has spanned over five decades, got his start in his family's business by working various jobs during his summer breaks while a student at the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Steve Snyder joined the family business full-time after graduating from college and attended the National Automobile Dealers Association Academy to further refine his skills in dealership management; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, Steve Snyder was named general manager of Checkered Flag Hyundai, and by 2009, he was president of the Checkered Flag dealership group; and

WHEREAS, Steve Snyder works with his sons, William and Benjamin, to lead his family's business of eight dealerships representing 17 different brands in the greater Hampton Roads area; and

WHEREAS, an active and dedicated member of his community, Steve Snyder has supported a wide array of industry and community causes for many years, continuing the Snyder family's long tradition of service in his capacity as a well-recognized and respected advocate for numerous community events; and

WHEREAS, Steve Snyder has been a leader in his community through his support for numerous causes and organizations that serve others in diverse ways, to include An Achievable Dream, Inc., and Access College Foundation, both of which provide educational assistance to at-risk youth; the Salvation Army in Hampton Roads; Virginia Beach 4-H; Horizons Hampton Roads; Norfolk Botanical Garden; Recovery for Life in Virginia Beach; and United Way of South Hampton Roads; and

WHEREAS, Steve Snyder provides leadership to various organizations in his community, including as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Eastern Virginia Medical School, where he donates matching funds up to \$25,000 to fund scholarships, curriculum enhancements, research equipment, and more; and

WHEREAS, Steve Snyder also serves the community as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center Foundation in Virginia Beach, where the Checkered Flag Auto Group has set up a \$2 million endowment fund to provide free admission in perpetuity to active-duty military members and their families; and

WHEREAS, an active and dedicated member of his industry, Steve Snyder has served his customers and his community with a generous spirit and has been an example to dealers both in his community and around the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Steve Snyder has served his industry as an active member of the Virginia Automobile Dealers Association, including by serving as a member of its board of directors; and

WHEREAS, Steve Snyder served as chair of the Virginia Automobile Dealers Association in 2002, leading his fellow franchise dealers as their top elected officer; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Stephen Snyder hereby be commended on his selection as the 2023 *TIME* Dealer of the Year nominee for Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Stephen Snyder as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's congratulations and best wishes.

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