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**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 146**

Offered March 3, 2014

*Commending the League of Women Voters of the Williamsburg Area.*

Patron—Mason

WHEREAS, in 2013 and 2014, the League of Women Voters of the Williamsburg Area celebrates its 50th year of encouraging informed and active participation in government at all levels; and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters of the Williamsburg Area is a nonprofit and nonpartisan political organization; it offers voter information and programs to the public and has a strong advocacy effort; and

WHEREAS, the national League of Women Voters was founded in 1920, shortly before women were granted the right to vote; from the beginning, the group has been an activist, grassroots organization, believing that it is a fundamental right of all citizens to be informed about and active in the political process; and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters is one of the most effective grassroots organizations in the country, steadfast in its belief that the strength of the nation's political system depends on a well-informed citizenry; and

WHEREAS, one of the goals of the League of Women Voters is to mobilize female voters—as a way of honoring the struggle, sacrifice, and ultimate success of earlier generations of activists for women's rights and to ensure that their efforts are not forgotten in the present; and

WHEREAS, for many years, the League of Women Voters has provided vital services to voters about the electoral process, including facilitating voter registration, sponsoring candidate forums, publicizing elections, and answering questions from the public about voting and elections; and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters also is active in two other areas of civic life; the group works with non-violent felons to restore their voting rights, and the group's Education Committee studies and lobbies educators to help strengthen the kindergarten through 12th grade programs in the Williamsburg-James City County public schools; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that an informed electorate is a vital part of the democratic process, the Williamsburg League of Women Voters sponsors the Great Decisions series, an annual lecture program held in late winter; experts in a particular field are invited to speak and the programs are open to the public; and

WHEREAS, in its 50th anniversary year, the League of Women Voters is ably led by Meda Humphreys, president; Nancy Hummel, membership chair; and Priscilla Peterson, voter service chair; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the League of Women Voters of the Williamsburg Area hereby be commended on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and for its tireless work to promote informed and active participation in government at all levels; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Meda Humphreys, president of the League of Women Voters of the Williamsburg Area, as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect and admiration for its vital service to the citizens of Williamsburg and James City County and to the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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