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## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 176**

Offered February 1, 2022

Commending Keswick Hunt Club.

Patron—Bell

WHEREAS, for 125 years, Keswick Hunt Club has promoted responsible hunting as a family-friendly outdoor activity, while supporting conservation efforts and building a strong sense of community in the Virginia Piedmont; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1896, Keswick Hunt Club draws upon and preserves the long-established traditions of foxhunting in the Commonwealth that date back to early colonial settlements; and

WHEREAS, the members of Keswick Hunt Club conduct hunts on designated land in the Counties of Albemarle, Louisa, Madison, and Orange, and generations of club members and visitors have benefited from the club's activities; and

WHEREAS, the hunting hounds at Keswick Hunt Club are well cared for by professional staff members, and they are highly trained to ensure their own safety; and

WHEREAS, Keswick Hunt Club engages with young people through local 4-H clubs and other organizations, and in 2021, 20 of the club's junior members received the Fairly Hunted Award, a youth achievement award from the Masters of Foxhounds Association; and

WHEREAS, Keswick Hunt Club has become a cherished community center in the region and hosted countless parties, picnics, horse shows, and other gatherings throughout its history; and

WHEREAS, Keswick Hunt Club has thrived over the years thanks to the hard work of the club's volunteers and professional staff members, as well as the generosity of partners, donors, and local landowners; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Keswick Hunt Club on the occasion of its 125th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Keswick Hunt Club as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for the club's legacy of contributions to the hunting community and the residents of the Virginia Piedmont.