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R-65 2015

## No. R-65. House concurrent resolution congratulating John C. Stewart & Son, Inc.'s Ford dealership on its 100th anniversary.

(H.C.R.46)

Offered by: Representative Devereux of Mount Holly

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, operating a business over multiple generations is a source of family pride, and

Whereas, since June 17, 1915, members of the Stewart Family of Cuttingsville, in the town of Shrewsbury, have been the proud proprietors of the John C. Stewart & Son Ford dealership, the state's second oldest, and

Whereas, John C. Stewart's son, Clayton J. Stewart Sr., then only 17 years of age, worked at the business from the day the first Ford left the premises, and

<u>Whereas</u>, before starting to sell Ford automobiles, John C. Stewart's business, begun in 1895, was a traditional Vermont country store that would later sell coal and grain, and

Whereas, John C. Stewart served as the local postmaster and established a reputation for fair dealing that the family continues to this day, and

<u>Whereas</u>, the transition from a general merchandise establishment to an exclusively Ford dealership occurred over a period of years, and the merchandise included Fordson tractors and the appliances of several manufacturing companies, and

Whereas, the third generation of these family Ford dealers included Clayton Stewart Jr. and his brothers Bernard Stewart (popularly known as B.J.) and John Stewart, and

Whereas, the fourth, and currently managing, generation of the dealership includes Clayton Jr.'s children, Mike and Lauren, who have brought modern managerial ideas to their successful family enterprise, and

Whereas, the Stewart family is looking forward optimistically to the business' future, as Ashley Stewart Seiple, representing the family's fifth generation, is working in the dealership's service department, and

Whereas, this unusual family commitment to the continuity of the John C. Stewart & Son Ford dealership means the management is always striving to offer top-quality sales and maintenance services, and

Whereas, in 2015, John C. Stewart & Son is marking a century of automotive retailing excellence, now therefore be it

## Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates John C. Stewart & Son, Inc.'s Ford dealership on its 100th anniversary and extends best wishes for continued success in its second century, and be it further

<u>Resolved</u>: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to John C. Stewart & Son in Cuttingsville.