

No. R-28. House concurrent resolution honoring the Kelly Brush Foundation for its contributions to adaptive sports and the safety of ski racing.

(H.C.R.21)

Offered by: Representative Yantachka of Charlotte

Whereas, when Kelly Brush was growing up in Charlotte, she played a broad array of sports and captained the Green Mountain Valley School's lacrosse and soccer teams, and

Whereas, her special passion for Alpine skiing was not surprising, as her mother had skied on the U.S. Olympic team, and her father skied and later coached the sport at Middlebury College, and

Whereas, as a high school junior and senior, Kelly Brush qualified to race in the U.S. National Championships, and

Whereas, Kelly Brush excelled as a member of the Middlebury College women's Alpine ski team until she struck an unprotected lift tower at the Williams College Carnival in February 2006, a collision that left her permanently paralyzed, and

Whereas, she persevered, continuing her education, becoming a pediatric nurse practitioner, and establishing the Kelly Brush Foundation (the Foundation) that has a dual mission of assisting individuals who have sustained spinal cord injuries and improving the safety of Alpine ski racing, and

Whereas, the Foundation has awarded over 750 individual grants for the purchase of adaptive sports equipment such as handcycles, hockey sleds, monoskis, racing chairs, and sport chairs, and

Whereas, in partnership with elite adaptive sports programs, the Foundation has striven to improve athletes' introduction to the use of adaptive sports equipment and these individuals' pathways to independence, and

Whereas, U.S. Ski & Snowboard and the Foundation have developed a collaboration intended to improve skier safety and, annually, the Foundation distributes educational materials to U.S. Ski & Snowboard's Alpine ski clubs, and

Whereas, the Foundation's "Inspire!" fundraising events, held in cities around the country, feature adaptive sports athletes and are highly successful, but the requests for the Foundation's support continue to expand, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the Kelly Brush Foundation for its contributions to adaptive sports and the safety of ski racing, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Kelly Brush and to the Kelly Brush Foundation.