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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 465

Offered January 19, 2001

Commending the Living Interfaith Network (LINK).

Patron—Maxwell

WHEREAS, the Living Interfaith Network—LINK—was formed in January 1991 by action of Newport News interfaith congregations and with the support of the Newport News City Council and the city's business and civic communities; and

WHEREAS, since its founding, LINK has provided a comprehensive array of community-based services to the citizens of the Greater Virginia Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, for the past decade, LINK has helped the elderly, parents and children, and those affected by homelessness and physical and emotional disabilities to break the cycle of poverty through education, direct services, advocacy, and outreach programs; and

WHEREAS, LINK, which provides services on the local level and is accountable to the communities it serves, is uniquely qualified to provide rapid, flexible, and accessible services to its clients and families; and

WHEREAS, by working in partnership with clients, family members, advocates, and other local service agencies, LINK has provided assistance to those citizens least able to care for themselves, enabling them to become contributing members of society; and

WHEREAS, over the past 10 years, many dedicated citizen volunteers, representing the Cities of Newport News, Hampton, Poquoson, Williamsburg, and Suffolk and the Counties of York, Gloucester, James City, and Isle of Wight have built an enviable record of high-quality service to the citizens of these communities; and

WHEREAS, the staff of LINK has worked to create model programs, such as PORT (People Offering Resources Together), the homeless winter shelter program, the ReachOut Mentor program, the Emergency Service Center, the USDA and LINK Food Pantry, the Professional Clothing Closet, the OutReach Life Skills program, the Share the Spirit children's holiday program, and the Donation Distribution Center, which have gained local, state, and national recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Living Interfaith Network (LINK) on the occasion of its 10th anniversary of service to the citizens of the Greater Virginia Peninsula; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Harriet Nachman Storm, chair of the Living Interfaith Network (LINK) board of directors, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for LINK's fine work and dedication to the betterment of the lives of the citizens of Virginia.

ENGROSSED

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