

2004 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 99

Offered January 14, 2004

Prefiled January 12, 2004

Commending Alex Gulotta.

Patrons—Van Yahres, Bell and Landes; Senator: Deeds

WHEREAS, Alex Gulotta, a Charlottesville attorney and the executive director of the Legal Aid Justice Center, received the 2003 Charles Dorsey Award from the National Legal Aid and Defender Association; and

WHEREAS, the Charles Dorsey Award is given every two years in recognition of "extraordinary and dedicated service" in the equal justice community; and

WHEREAS, Alex Gulotta joined the Charlottesville Albemarle Legal Aid Society in 1994 and has, for the past decade, provided energetic and innovative leadership on behalf of the society's clients; and

WHEREAS, in response to 1996 Congressional restrictions on federally funded legal aid programs, Alex Gulotta led the effort to transform the Charlottesville program into the Legal Aid Justice Center, which relies on private donations not subject to government restrictions; and

WHEREAS, Alex Gulotta was instrumental in the creation of two new programs at the Legal Aid Justice Center, the first assisted farm and immigrant workers and the second focused solely on the legal needs of children; and

WHEREAS, Alex Gulotta's transformed Legal Aid Justice Center and its innovative programs have become models for other legal aid organizations across the country, and Alex Gulotta has helped to establish similar programs in Richmond and Petersburg; and

WHEREAS, Alex Gulotta has assisted in securing a permanent home for the Legal Aid Justice Center in a newly renovated building that houses several other community organizations; and

WHEREAS, described by colleagues as inexhaustible, talented, relentless, creative, and optimistic, Alex Gulotta is a worthy recipient of the prestigious Charles Dorsey Award; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Alex Gulotta for his outstanding work with the Legal Aid Justice Center; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Alex Gulotta as an expression of the congratulations and best wishes of the General Assembly.

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