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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 45

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 8, 2010

Commending Brain Injury Services, Inc., on the occasion of its 20th anniversary.

Patrons—Bulova, Albo, Anderson, Brink, Comstock, Ebbin, Englin, Greason, Herring, Hope, Hugo, Keam, Kory, LeMunyon, Lingamfelter, May, Plum, Rust, Scott, J.M., Sickles, Surovell, Torian and Watts; Senator: Petersen

WHEREAS, in 2009 Brain Injury Services, Inc., celebrated 20 years of service to the Commonwealth and to survivors of brain injuries and their families; and

WHEREAS, Brain Injury Services, Inc., formerly known as Head Injury Services Partnership, a 501 c (3) nonprofit organization, was established in 1989 in response to recommendations made by a brain injury work-study group, which was formed under the direction of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the work-study group identified traumatic brain injury as a major cause of disability in Virginia, identified a void in coordinated community-based services for this disability group, and documented that brain injury is a unique problem that requires an array of services to achieve successful rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, the work-study group recommended a joint state and local effort to establish a unique nonprofit agency that specialized in the provision of services for persons with brain injury; and

WHEREAS, the work-study group recognized that specialized brain injury case management is the key to an effective and efficient community-based rehabilitation system; and

WHEREAS, Brain Injury Services, Inc., was the first agency in Virginia to receive dedicated state funds to design and provide comprehensive community-based services to enable individuals to integrate successfully back into their community after injury; and

WHEREAS, over the last 20 years, Brain Injury Services, Inc., through increased funding from the General Assembly, local government, and private partnerships has been able to develop model programs and services for children and adults with brain injuries; and

WHEREAS, Brain Injury Services, Inc., through the use of the Commonwealth Neurotrauma Initiative grant award in 2002, established the first community-based case management program dedicated to children with brain injuries and their families; and

WHEREAS, Brain Injury Services, Inc., developed unique models of support services including programs to allow individuals with brain injuries to remain in their homes, maintain volunteer or paid employment, transition from a nursing home, and function in their home community; and

WHEREAS, Brain Injury Services, Inc., in partnership with Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center, provides an annual brain injury conference to increase the education of professionals, and in 2009 sponsored the First Annual International Conference on Culture, Ethnicity, and Brain Injury Rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, Brain Injury Services, Inc., provides community awareness annually through the Kit Callahan Miracle Mile 10K Race, Fun Run, Circle of Hope, and Brain Injury Awareness Fair held at George Mason University; and

WHEREAS, Brain Injury Services, Inc., is a direct partner in the implementation of the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program-Northern Region; and

WHEREAS, Brain Injury Services, Inc., provided access to their model programs around the Commonwealth and helped other communities develop services for individuals with brain injuries and their families; and

WHEREAS, Brain Injury Services, Inc., and its hardworking board of directors, staff, volunteers, and generous supporters make possible the services needed to help individuals with brain injuries meet their daily challenges and lead a life of their choice; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Brain Injury Services, Inc., on the occasion of its 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Brain Injury Services, Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude to the organization for its commitment to the survivors of brain injuries and their families.

INTRODUCED

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