

## 2011 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 800

*Commending the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance on the occasion of its 30th anniversary.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 18, 2011

Agreed to by the Senate, February 24, 2011

WHEREAS, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance is a coalition of people and agencies committed to ending sexual and domestic violence in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance has been a recognized leader in Virginia's response to sexual and domestic violence, beginning with the formation of Virginians Aligned Against Sexual Assault in 1980 followed by Virginians Against Domestic Violence in 1981 that transformed into the work of the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance in 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance has provided a statewide Virginia Family Violence and Sexual Assault hotline, responding to more than 50,000 calls a year to link thousands of survivors and professionals to services in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance has provided specialized training and technical assistance to ensure local communities have the resources they need to respond effectively to sexual and domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance has educated individuals, professionals, communities, and legislators to advocate for policy and practice that promotes offender accountability and prioritizes the safety, needs, and autonomy of individuals who have experienced sexual and/or domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance has worked for social justice and equality, recognizing that sexual and domestic violence are linked to other forms of oppression that disproportionately affect women, children, and other marginalized people; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance has engaged in primary prevention work to promote healthy relationships and determine why individuals initially perpetrate sexual and domestic violence and interrupt that process; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance has conducted its work knowing that it is essential that survivors, the interests of survivors, and those impacted by sexual assault and domestic violence are at the forefront of all decision making; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance envisions and works toward a future where all communities are free of domestic violence and sexual assault, where individual sexual behaviors are safe and respectful, where healthy relationships thrive, and where survivors are empowered in an environment of respect and mutual learning; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance on the occasion of its 30th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation of the organization's ongoing leadership to end sexual and domestic violence in Virginia.

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