2012 SESSION

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 232

Commending Polaris Project.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 7, 2012 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 8, 2012

WHEREAS, in 2012, Polaris Project celebrates 10 years of working to create a world without human trafficking and without modern-day slavery; and

WHEREAS, named after the North Star that guided slaves toward freedom along the Underground Railroad, Polaris Project brings together everyday people to create a nationwide network focused on combating human trafficking and helping the victims of modern-day slavery; and

WHEREAS, Polaris Project has developed expert knowledge of trafficking networks around the world that is relied upon by law-enforcement officers, elected officials, business leaders, and service providers; and

WHEREAS, Polaris Project advocates for stronger federal and state laws against human trafficking, conducts training, and provides vital services to clients; and

WHEREAS, Polaris Project operates the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline; since its inception, the hotline has answered 48,000 calls, connected 5,600 victims to services, and reported more than 2,000 cases to law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Polaris Project has directly provided services to 500 human trafficking survivors through its client services program and trained more than 42,000 people; and

WHEREAS, Polaris Project has provided invaluable services and support to the victims of human trafficking while working to end the practice; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Polaris Project on the occasion of its 10th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Polaris Project as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and respect for the organization's efforts to end human trafficking and modern-day slavery.