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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 608

Offered January 9, 2013 Prefiled January 6, 2013

Designating August 14, in 2013 and in each succeeding year, as Pakistan Independence Day in Virginia.

Patrons-Hugo and Keam

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, August 14 marks the anniversary of Pakistan's independence from the United Kingdom; and

WHEREAS, on August 14, 1947, Pakistan was declared a sovereign nation, ending the rule of the British Raj; and

WHEREAS, the anniversary is marked by Pakistani people around the world with special ceremonies and festivities; and

WHEREAS, for the past 26 years, the Pakistani-American community of Northern Virginia has gathered together to celebrate the anniversary of Pakistan's independence; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, the Pakistan Independence Day Festival welcomed thousands of individuals to Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville; and

WHEREAS, attendees had the opportunity to sample a wide array of delectable Pakistani foods, such as kabobs, biryani, and haleem; hear pop and folk music from well-known Pakistani artists; and enjoy hot air balloon rides, pony rides, shopping, and a fashion show; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Pakistan Independence Day provides an opportunity to learn about the rich history, accomplishments, and traditions of the Pakistani people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate August 14, in 2013 and in each succeeding year, as Pakistan Independence Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.