## **HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 202**

Commending the Telugu Association of North America.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 21, 2013

WHEREAS, the Telugu Association of North America proudly celebrates its 35th anniversary in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Telugu Association of North America (TANA) is to "identify and address [the] social, cultural, and educational needs of [the] North American Telugu Community in particular and Telugu people in general"; and

WHEREAS, in 1977 a group of Telugus at a convention in New York founded the Telugu Association of North America, which was incorporated as a nonprofit organization the following year to develop and promote Telugu culture and heritage; and

WHEREAS, today, TANA is the oldest and largest Indo-American organization in North America and works to integrate the cultural heritage of Telugu-speaking people into mainstream North American society; and

WHEREAS, TANA holds singing and dancing competitions for Telugu youth across North America to help preserve and perpetuate Telugu culture and showcases eminent Telugu artists at biannual conventions that bring together Telugu people and other individuals interested in the rich culture of the Telugus; and

WHEREAS, TANA's efforts have helped revitalize the artistic traditions of Telugu culture in North America and preserve Telugu language and literature; and

WHEREAS, TANA, through its charitable foundation, gives millions of dollars annually to various outreach programs, while its "Team Square" helps Telugus in crisis situations after a catastrophe; and WHEREAS, across North America, TANA members participate in community service efforts to help

WHEREAS, across North America, TANA members participate in community service efforts to help children in poverty through the provision of school supplies and support Telugus in entrepreneurial activity, which benefits the greater community; and

WHEREAS, members of the Telugu community make numerous contributions as they work in a variety of professional and business occupations and serve those around them; and

WHEREAS, a pioneering organization, TANA serves as a model for Telugu and Indian ethnic organizations around the world as it strives to promote the Telugu culture and serve the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Telugu Association of North America hereby be commended on the occasion of its 35th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Telugu Association of North America as an expression of the House of Delegates' congratulations and admiration for the organization's efforts to preserve the Telugus' rich heritage and to serve the community.