

# 2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

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14200160D

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5074

Offered May 2, 2014

*Commending Business Development Assistance Group, Inc.*

Patron—Simon

WHEREAS, for more than 20 years, Business Development Assistance Group, Inc. (BDAG), a nonprofit organization in Northern Virginia, has helped recent immigrants and minorities contribute to their communities by starting a small business and fostered economic self-sufficiency through entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, founded in Arlington County in the early 1990s, Business Development Assistance Group strives to help small, women, veteran, and minority-owned businesses thrive by providing a wide variety of services, including training, technical assistance, market research, and networking, all free of charge; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, Business Development Assistance Group partnered with the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board and the Fairfax County Department of Family Services to open the Center for Business Planning and Development, a resource hub for current and future small businesses in the area; and

WHEREAS, Business Development Assistance Group is a crucial partner in the Employing Northern Virginia Through Entrepreneurship (ENOVATE) program, which helps eligible adults and dislocated job seekers—particularly veterans—start their own businesses; the program is operated under the Virginia Employment Through Entrepreneurship Consortium (VTEC), which was funded by the United States Department of Labor Workforce Innovation Fund; and

WHEREAS, Business Development Assistance Group has earned numerous awards and accolades for its work to provide new opportunities for immigrants and minorities and enhance the local, state, and national economies; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Business Development Assistance Group, Inc., for more than 20 years of service to the community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Business Development Assistance Group, Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's mission to help small businesses succeed and strengthen the American workforce through entrepreneurship.

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