

## 2015 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 527

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled December 18, 2014

*Designating November, in 2015 and in each succeeding year, as Virginia Caregivers Month in Virginia.*

Patrons—Head and Peace

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, approximately 1.06 million people in the Commonwealth, 13 percent of the total population, are 65 years of age or older, and the number is expected to increase to 1.77 million people, or 18.3 percent of the population, by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the number of Virginians 85 years of age or older is expected to be almost 150,000 by 2020 and more than 190,000 by 2030; and

WHEREAS, more than 130,000 Virginians have Alzheimer's disease, and this number is expected to increase to 190,000 by 2025; and

WHEREAS, both unpaid family caregivers and paid caregivers work together to serve the daily living needs of seniors who reside in their own homes; and

WHEREAS, helping seniors provide for their own care lessens the burden placed on public assistance offered by the Commonwealth and the federal government; and

WHEREAS, caregivers and the caregiving profession play a vital role in strengthening communities, and individuals are encouraged to support the private home care industry and the efforts of family caregivers throughout the Commonwealth by volunteering to provide care for family, friends, and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, policies and programs ensuring accessible and affordable care for seniors and addressing the needs of seniors and their family caregivers help to build a bright future for the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Division for the Aging succeeds in its mission to educate people in the Commonwealth on the impact of aging and the importance of knowing the options available to seniors when they require care and assistance with personal needs; and

WHEREAS, the Caregiver Action Network recognizes November as National Family Caregivers Month; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate November, in 2015 and in each succeeding year, as Virginia Caregivers Month in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the Virginia Division for the Aging so that members of the organization may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

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

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