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## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 101

Offered February 16, 2015

*Commending Child Development Resources, Inc.*

Patron—Norment

WHEREAS, in 2015, Child Development Resources, Inc., in Norge, celebrates 50 years of helping young children with disabilities or developmental delays become the very best they can be and of advocating on behalf of the nation's youngest citizens; and

WHEREAS, Child Development Resources (CDR), which was founded in 1965 as the Williamsburg Preschool for Special Children, today provides direct services to nearly 1,000 children ages 0-3 and their families, and offers training to education and mental health professionals; and

WHEREAS, CDR has developed several methods that are now in wide practice to help identify and work with children with disabilities who need services; over the years, several of CDR's practices and advocacy efforts have been implemented in other states and countries; and

WHEREAS, CDR serves children with developmental and severe disabilities in the Williamsburg area; in 1978, it moved to a permanent space in Lightfoot after being housed in church basements for the first 13 years of existence; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, the organization opened a new facility in Norge, and two additional CDR sites, both named First Steps Child Care and Development Center, are located at the Griffin-Yeates Learning Center in York County and at Lafayette High School in Williamsburg; and

WHEREAS, the staff at CDR work closely with families of children with disabilities, teaching them how to become their children's primary educator and to show them that they are the most important people in their child's early education and development; and

WHEREAS, CDR's influence and advocacy efforts reach beyond the Williamsburg area; in 1972, the Virginia Developmental Disabilities Council selected it to devise a model for use throughout the Commonwealth to identify children with disabilities in need of services; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, the center was recognized nationally when it received a federal grant for its Early Childhood Model Demonstration Project; the center is a strong advocate for infants and toddlers with disabilities and is internationally known for its professional training and expertise; and

WHEREAS, among the honors and awards that have been received by the CDR are a Communities of Excellence award for the blended services it offers to infants, toddlers, and their families, a Healthcare Hero Award from the Williamsburg Community Health Foundation, and the Carol S. Fox Making Kids Count Award from the Voices for Virginia's Children organization; and

WHEREAS, individuals and organizations have been very generous contributors to Child Development Resources, and local, state, and federal governments have been strong supporters; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Child Development Resources, Inc., in Norge hereby be commended on the occasion of its 50th anniversary for its work and advocacy efforts on behalf of young children with disabilities or developmental delays and for the training it offers to education and mental health professionals; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Paul F. Scott, executive director of Child Development Resources, Inc., as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect and congratulations for its effective education, leadership, and advocacy on behalf of infants and young children in the Williamsburg area, the Commonwealth, and the world.

INTRODUCED

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