

2016 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 41

Offered January 13, 2016

Prefiled December 18, 2015

Commending Pamela L. Michell.

Patrons—Krizek, Albo, Herring, Levine, Rasoul, Sickles and Watts; Senators: Barker, Ebbin and Surovell

WHEREAS, Pamela L. Michell, executive director of New Hope Housing, Inc., in Fairfax County, has tirelessly and compassionately worked for 25 years to provide shelter and an array of services to help end the cycle of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, deeply committed to helping those who are in great need, Pamela "Pam" L. Michell began working as executive director of Route One Corridor Housing, Inc., in 1990; the organization, which opened the first shelter in Fairfax County, had beds and shelter at three sites; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the organization, which changed its name to New Hope Housing and broadened its mission, became the largest provider of shelter beds in Northern Virginia; it now has many services that provide housing to homeless individuals and help them create a better life; and

WHEREAS, under Pam Michell's dedicated leadership, New Hope Housing has expanded its facilities and services to include transitional and permanent supportive housing; the organization also worked to establish a 10-year plan to help end poverty and homelessness in Fairfax County; and

WHEREAS, Pam Michell has overseen New Hope Housing's work in other Northern Virginia localities; the group operates shelters in Arlington County and the City of Alexandria; New Hope Housing also helped open a winter shelter dedicated to preventing deaths from hypothermia; and

WHEREAS, New Hope Housing's accomplishments are many, and Pam Michell is proud of the committed volunteers who work daily to end homelessness; the group's philosophy is to "welcome the unwelcome" by providing hope, hospitality, dignity, and respect, as evidenced by the numerous lives that have been changed; and

WHEREAS, New Hope Housing and Pam Michell have received many accolades and awards for the nonprofit organization's life-affirming work to end homelessness; in 2005, she was named Washingtonian of the Year by *Washingtonian* magazine; and

WHEREAS, Pam Michell also was honored with the Nonprofit Leadership Award from Leadership Fairfax in 2013, and in 2015, New Hope Housing received the Housing First award from the Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Pamela L. Michell, executive director of New Hope Housing, Inc., for her tireless efforts over the past 25 years to end homelessness in Northern Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Pamela L. Michell as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for her leadership and commitment to bettering the lives of those who are in great need.

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