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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 432

Offered March 3, 2016

Commending the Shirlington Employment and Education Center.

Patrons—Lopez, Hope, Levine and Sullivan; Senators: Ebbin, Favola and Howell

WHEREAS, for 15 years, the Shirlington Employment and Education Center has provided day workers in Arlington with a welcoming venue to meet potential employers and seek crucial job training; and

WHEREAS, the Shirlington Employment and Education Center was founded in 2000 by Walter Tejada, Lori Rinker, Nanola K. Brown Henry, Hayward Corley, Leni Gonzalez, Emily DiCicco, Clare Cherkasky, and Andres Tobar; it is the oldest official worker center still in operation in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Shirlington Employment and Education Center consists of two facilities, where the center's dedicated staff members help potential employers meet with and hire workers; and

WHEREAS, each year, Shirlington Employment and Education Center helps provide more than 2,000 jobs; the center also helps workers collect more than \$15,000 in unpaid wages annually; and

WHEREAS, Shirlington Employment and Education Center offers vocational training as well as English and other job-related courses, such as green housecleaning techniques and workshops on how to start a business; and

WHEREAS, Shirlington Employment and Education Center has received generous support from local individuals, organizations, and churches, including Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, and Good Spoon Church; and

WHEREAS, over the course of its 15-year history, Shirlington Employment and Education Center has increased the skillsets of the local worker pool and facilitated meaningful interactions between workers and employers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Shirlington Employment and Education Center on the occasion of its 15th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Shirlington Employment and Education Center as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the center's mission to help residents of Arlington achieve employment.

INTRODUCED

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