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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 442**

Offered February 20, 2017

*Commending Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool.*

Patrons—Surovell and Ebbin; Delegate: Krizek

WHEREAS, for 75 years, Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool, located in the historic Tauxemont neighborhood of Alexandria, has helped numerous children grow emotionally, developmentally, physically, and socially, all while experiencing the joy of learning; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1942 by members of the Tauxemont Community Association to provide childcare to working families in what was then the rural countryside of Fairfax County, Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool originally hosted playground sessions and held meetings in local homes on rainy days; and

WHEREAS, Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool purchased its own building in 1946, then held classes on the second floor of the Mount Vernon Fire Department after the original school was destroyed by fire in 1948; the school relocated to the newly built Tauxemont Community House in 1949; and

WHEREAS, Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool has grown to serve annually 64 students over multiple age groups and is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children through a rigorous, voluntary accreditation process that promotes excellence in early education; and

WHEREAS, having served the community for 75 years, Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool has now served over 5,000 alumni in the greater Mount Vernon area; and

WHEREAS, Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool provides activities geared toward the proper age, developmental stage, and skill level of each child to ensure that all students discover learning is both fun and rewarding and develop the skills to achieve success in later schooling; and

WHEREAS, family involvement is essential to the Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool philosophy, and parents are encouraged to take an active role in their children's education as volunteers in and out of the classroom; and

WHEREAS, the Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool hosts the Tauxemont Nature Camp during summers, consisting of nature hikes, camp songs, and natural activities, which has thousands of alumni; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, Tauxemont has benefited from the leadership of dedicated and qualified teachers; the school is currently staffed by three teachers, Barbara Bradley, Dawn Matthews, and Cindy Peverall, and three assistant teachers, Melissa Wilson, Kim Sharp, and Susan Schaefer; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool for its service to the youth of Alexandria and Fairfax County on the occasion of its 75th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the school's commitment to giving children a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

INTRODUCED

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