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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 296

Offered February 19, 2018

Commending the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce.

Patrons—Plum; Senator: Howell

WHEREAS, the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1982 to enhance the prosperity of the Reston region by providing a supportive environment for businesses and the community to grow; and

WHEREAS, Reston and the Dulles Technology Corridor together comprise the fourth-largest business center in the United States and are the home to several prominent American and foreign-owned companies, many of whom are members of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce which provide numerous jobs to the region; Reston has earned renown as one of the most successful planned communities in the world, featuring unique neighborhoods, along with shopping and entertainment destinations; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce has grown steadily over the years, expanding the services and opportunities it provides to its members, and it has proven to be a highly effective advocate for business; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce has more than 600 members, from solo entrepreneurs to Fortune 500 companies, and takes pride in cultivating these relationships to facilitate business growth and entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce provides a wide range of quality programs for every business professional, including niche special interests such as government contractors, young professionals, health care professionals, and professionals in the nonprofit and hospitality sectors; and

WHEREAS, since it was established in 2000 as a 501(c)3 subsidiary of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, the INCspire Education Foundation has mentored and graduated more than 70 firms that have in turn created more than 500 jobs in the region, attracted more than \$50 million in investments, and secured more than 80,000 square feet of commercial space in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce is a leading member of the Northern Virginia Chamber Partnership, established in 2009, which advocates for the regional legislative interests of member companies and organizations; and

WHEREAS, in addition to its outstanding work on behalf of local businesses, the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce has been a dedicated community partner by donating expertise, funds, and hundreds of volunteer hours to local nonprofits; and

WHEREAS, some of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce's many contributions to nonprofits include partnering with Cornerstones to raise more than \$4 million and recognize businesses that go above and beyond to support the broader community; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce was the first organization in Northern Virginia to establish Ethics Day, which gives members of the business community an opportunity to meet with future business leaders from the South Lakes High School senior class, help them find their career paths, and provide guidance on how to make moral and ethical decisions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce on the occasion of its 35th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's many years of support for local businesses and charitable organizations.

INTRODUCED

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