## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38**

Designating the Friday after Thanksgiving, in 2018 and in each succeeding year, as I am my brother and sister's keeper Day in Virginia.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 12, 2018 Agreed to by the Senate, March 5, 2018

WHEREAS, I am my brother and sister's keeper Day is an opportunity for all Virginians, regardless of race, gender, religion, education, political affiliation, or financial status, to come together, celebrate shared ideals, and work toward a brighter future; and

WHEREAS, on this day, Virginians should look beyond personal preferences, biases, and egos to join together in a common cause to rebuild and strengthen personal relationships, neighborhoods, and communities; and

WHEREAS, any amount of community service or contribution, no matter how seemingly insignificant, can have an incredible impact on the life of a person in pain or in need; and

WHEREAS, service can take many forms, such as helping build a home for a less fortunate family, donating to a food bank, donating old clothes, mentoring a child, volunteering at a school or church, visiting senior citizens, or starting a community project; and

WHEREAS, it is also possible to make a difference in the life of a friend, neighbor, or stranger on a more personal level by reminding them that there are people who care and there is always hope, even in the most difficult situations; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth is stronger when its citizens stand together, treat each other with kindness and decency, and work to build respect and mutual understanding; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate the Friday after Thanksgiving, in 2018 and in each succeeding year, as I am my brother and sister's keeper Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.