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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 496

Offered March 5, 2018

Commending the Fredericksburg Area Museum.

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Patrons—Thomas, Cole and Orrock; Senators: Reeves and Stuart

WHEREAS, the Fredericksburg Area Museum, which works diligently to collect, research, interpret, teach, and preserve the history and heritage of the Fredericksburg community, celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2018; and

WHEREAS, after the historic Fredericksburg Town Hall was vacated in 1982, the city resolved to lease and restore the building for use as a local museum, and the Fredericksburg Area Museum and Cultural Center was first opened in 1988; and

WHEREAS, the Fredericksburg Area Museum and Cultural Center served the community for many years, until a reorganization in 2015; the museum reopened in 2017 as the Fredericksburg Area Museum with a revitalized mission and vision; and

WHEREAS, the Fredericksburg Area Museum maintains a collection of more than 3,000 historical objects in permanent and rotating exhibits and strives to present the region's history in ways that resonate with and inspire the diverse, growing Fredericksburg community; and

WHEREAS, the Fredericksburg Area Museum has also renewed its focus on education, providing online and classroom resources for students and teachers, as well as valuable adult and community programming at the museum and partner institutions; and

WHEREAS, the Fredericksburg Area Museum is a vital cultural hub and an integral component of the economy of downtown Fredericksburg, drawing visitors from across the Commonwealth and the United States, including more than 15,000 visitors in 2017 alone; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Fredericksburg Area Museum for its service to the community on the occasion of its 30th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Fredericksburg Area Museum as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the museum's work to preserve the history of the Commonwealth and the cultural spirit of Fredericksburg.