

2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 195

Commending Hilton Village.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 6, 2018
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 2018

WHEREAS, Hilton Village, a planned community in Newport News that was the nation's first federal war housing project, celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Hilton Village traces its roots to World War I, when an influx of shipbuilders and other wartime workers sparked a severe housing shortage in Newport News; in response, Newport News Shipbuilding secured federal funding for construction of a new housing project on a tract of land along the James River; and

WHEREAS, named for a 19th century homestead that had occupied the site, Hilton Village had a planning team that included Newport News Shipbuilding president Homer L. Ferguson, town planner Henry Vincent Hubbard, engineer Francis H. Bulot, and architects Joseph D. Leland III and Francis Y. Joannes; and

WHEREAS, Hilton Village opened in July 1918 and eventually included 500 English cottage-style homes designed for wartime workers and their families; the community was the first of some 100 government housing projects completed during World War I; and

WHEREAS, unlike many planned communities, Hilton Village included lots that varied in size and several different home layouts; the village also featured a central commercial district and streetcar as well as plots for a church, library, firehouse, and school; and

WHEREAS, after World War I ended, the federal government declared Hilton Village surplus property and sold it to Henry E. Huntington, chairman of Newport News Shipbuilding; he began selling its houses on the private market, transitioning the wartime community into a residential neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, today, Hilton Village remains a thriving community of residential homes and locally-owned businesses and has maintained much of the integrity of its original English cottage-style architecture; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of its status as the federal government's first planned wartime community, Hilton Village was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1969; and

WHEREAS, to mark its centennial, Hilton Village is holding a series of special events and historical lectures that will culminate with the Hilton Centennial Grand Celebration on July 7, 2018; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Hilton Village on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Hilton Village as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its rich history and legacy.

ENROLLED

SJ195ER