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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1103

Offered February 18, 2019

Commending Not a Runaway, Inc.

Patrons—Krizek; Senators: Surovell and Ebbin

WHEREAS, Not a Runaway, Inc., a national nonprofit organization, supports families by raising awareness of missing teenagers; and

WHEREAS, in January 12, 2018, Veronica Eyenga's niece Jholie Moussa disappeared, but an Amber Alert was not issued due to a lack of evidence that she had been abducted; and

WHEREAS, Veronica Eyenga enlisted the help of family members, friends, and community members to mobilize a social media campaign that garnered attention across the nation and resulted in an investigation, which ultimately led to the discovery of Jholie Moussa's body on January 26, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Veronica Eyenga founded Not a Runaway in February 2018 to help ensure that no parent or family member experiences the same pain that Jholie Moussa's family continues to feel; and

WHEREAS, Not a Runaway disseminates timely information regarding cases of missing teenagers that have been labeled as runaways, specifically cases for children between the ages of 11 and 17 who have been missing for two weeks or less and do not have a history of running away; and

WHEREAS, Not a Runaway has fulfilled its mission by building a circle of trust between law enforcement, children's families, and members of the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Not a Runaway, Inc., for its work to support families of missing teenagers; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Not a Runaway, Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's important services.

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