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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1113

Offered February 18, 2019

Commending the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority.

Patrons—Tran, Ayala, Bell, John J., Bulova, Carroll Foy, Carter, Delaney, Filler-Corn, Gooditis, Guzman, Herring, Hope, Hugo, Keam, Kory, Krizek, LaRock, Levine, Lopez, Murphy, Plum, Reid, Roem, Sickles, Simon, Sullivan, Torian and Watts; Senators: Barker, Boysko, Deeds, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Howell, Marsden, McPike, Petersen, Saslaw and Surovell

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority has served the community and the Commonwealth for 60 years; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NOVA Parks) is a model of successful regionalism with member jurisdictions, including the Counties of Arlington, Fairfax, and Loudoun, and the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, and Falls Church; and

WHEREAS, NOVA Parks has conserved over 12,200 acres of land, much of it along the major rivers of Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, over 100 miles of trails, serving between two and three million users, have been created by NOVA Parks, including the Washington and Old Dominion Trail and the Bull Run/Occoquan Trails; and

WHEREAS, NOVA Parks has a positive economic impact of nearly \$50 million a year on the local economy; and

WHEREAS, significant historic sites connected with native peoples, the Colonial era, the Civil War, civil rights, and more have been preserved and interpreted by NOVA Parks; and

WHEREAS, NOVA Parks has created award winning facilities and programs, including two family campgrounds, five water parks, two holiday light shows, five event venues, and facilities for boating, hiking, riding, and much more; and

WHEREAS, parks continue to rank as one of the most important amenities for quality of life issues and NOVA Parks is known for having many of the best-quality parks in Virginia; in addition, entrepreneurial operations have resulted in a system that is over 85 percent self-funded; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority on the occasion of its 60th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for a legacy of regional conservation and parks in Northern Virginia.

INTRODUCED

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