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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 703

Offered January 14, 2019

Designating the first full week of March, in 2019 and in each succeeding year, as Trusted Choice® Independent Insurance Agents Week in Virginia.

Patrons—Fowler and Morefield

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, celebrating its 120th anniversary, the Independent Insurance Agents of Virginia was formally established in 1898 as the Virginia Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents in Lynchburg; and

WHEREAS, the Independent Insurance Agents of Virginia was founded with a mission to facilitate the friendly exchange of ideas and expertise among its members and to promote best practices in the insurance field throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, members of the Independent Insurance Agents of Virginia have served the Commonwealth with distinction, including Lt. Governor Bill Bolling, Senator John Chichester, Senator Phil Puckett, and Delegate Frank Hargrove, Sr., among others; and

WHEREAS, the Independent Insurance Agents of Virginia is now part of the nation's oldest and largest association of independent insurance agents with a network of more than 300,000 agents and agency employees nationwide and more than 5,000 in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Independent Insurance Agents of Virginia offer customers a choice of policies from a variety of insurance companies; independent agents offer all lines of insurance—property, casualty, life, health, workers' compensation, employee benefit plans, and retirement products; and

WHEREAS, the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America is the leading national association representing the interests of independent insurance agents and owns the Trusted Choice® trademark created exclusively for members to demonstrate their commitment to providing choice, customization, and support for consumers; and

WHEREAS, Trusted Choice®, an online search engine for independent insurance agents, represents multiple insurance companies and helps consumers find the right company to protect their assets and address their unique concerns; and

WHEREAS, Trusted Choice® Independent Insurance Agents Week is designated right before the national Flood Awareness Week to encourage the residents of Virginia to review their need for flood insurance in these days of recurrent flooding, not only in the Tidewater region but in all areas of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, only three percent of Virginians today have flood insurance, but more than nine percent of Virginia land is located in designated flood hazard areas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate the first full week in March, in 2019 and in each succeeding year, as Trusted Choice® Independent Insurance Agents Week in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the Independent Insurance Agents of Virginia so that members of the organization may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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