

2019 SESSION

INTRODUCED

19103861D

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 788

Offered February 2, 2019

Commending CrisisLink.

Patrons—Sullivan; Senator: Favola

WHEREAS, CrisisLink, a 24-hour mental health and suicide-prevention call center based in Arlington, which is affiliated with the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, has served those in need of support for 50 years; and

WHEREAS, founded in a church basement in 1969, CrisisLink originally responded to calls related to teen drug abuse and relationship problems; it has grown to field more than 20,000 calls each year, with the majority handled by trained volunteers; and

WHEREAS, after the attacks on September 11, 2001, CrisisLink established a satellite at Virginia Hospital Center and answered more than 6,000 calls in 48 hours; and

WHEREAS, after the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline was formed in 2004, CrisisLink became one of more than 150 local crisis centers affiliated with the organization; and

WHEREAS, in June 2014, CrisisLink launched a crisis texting program in Fairfax County, resulting in 300 additional conversations within three months; that same year, the center merged with Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, an Arlington-based mental health nonprofit organization, to better serve its callers; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, CrisisLink has touched countless lives by providing free, confidential support to members of the community in their time of need; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend CrisisLink on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Wendy Gradison, executive director of CrisisLink, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's important mission and dedicated service to the residents of Northern Virginia.

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