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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 789

Offered February 2, 2019

Commending the Public Broadcasting Service.

Patrons—Sullivan and Rasoul; Senator: Ebbin

WHEREAS, for 50 years, the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), a public nonprofit television broadcasting network headquartered in Arlington, has provided high-quality educational and informative programming to audiences throughout Virginia and the United States; and

WHEREAS, established in 1969, PBS assumed many of the core functions of its predecessor, the National Educational Television network; PBS commenced broadcasting on October 5, 1970; and

WHEREAS, PBS merged with Educational Television Stations in 1973 and has since grown to include a network of more than 350 member stations in all 50 states, with some stations available in Canada; and

WHEREAS, unlike commercial broadcasters, PBS does not accept money for advertisements and is supported through federal funding, private donations, and pledge drives in an effort to ensure objectivity, balance, and universal access; and

WHEREAS, PBS is collectively owned by its member stations, which produce the network's news, documentary, and entertainment programming; PBS has distributed a number of highly regarded educational children's shows, and its evening schedules feature programs on the fine arts, drama, science, history, public affairs, and independent films; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, PBS has inspired young people as the nation's largest classroom, enriched cultural life as the largest stage for the arts, and provided all viewers with a trusted window to the world; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Public Broadcasting Service 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 the Public Broadcasting Service as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the network's legacy of enlightening, informing, and entertaining generations of viewers.

INTRODUCED

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