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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 990

Offered February 14, 2019

Commending Senior Connections.

Patrons—Carr, Adams, D.M., Bourne, Fowler, McQuinn, Rodman and Ware; Senator: Dance

WHEREAS, for over 45 years, Senior Connections, the Capital Area Agency on Aging, has played a vital role in helping local residents age with dignity by providing education, advocacy, and support; and

WHEREAS, the goal of Senior Connections is to promote the maximum level of independence for persons 60 years of age and older, and to ensure that older residents of the Counties of Hanover, New Kent, Charles City, Henrico, Chesterfield, Powhatan, and Goochland, and the Cities of Richmond and Ashland, live as an integral part of society, with access to programs and services that meet their needs and preferences; and

WHEREAS, to that end, Senior Connections offers numerous programs that provide services, information, and assistance to 23,000 older adults and caregivers each year; the organization serves as a lead for No Wrong Door, a program that makes it easier for older adults to find and use available services with 31 community partners; and

WHEREAS, Senior Connections runs 20 Friendship Cafés serving more than 700 participants; in addition, a dynamic partnership with Feed More provides more than 650 home delivered meals each day and contributes to a growing annual fundraiser; and

WHEREAS, Senior Connections partners with the gerontology department at Virginia Commonwealth University to manage the Richmond Age Wave Coalition, a collaboration of public and private organizations, businesses, and individuals working to prepare for the opportunities and challenges of the capital region's growing population of older adults; and

WHEREAS, notable volunteers play a crucial role in supporting Senior Connections, including John Parnell of the Virginia Insurance Counseling & Assistance Program, Nancy Bolio of the Foster Grandparent Program, Carol Young of the advisory council for Senior Connections, Peter Perkins of the advisory council for No Wrong Door, former board chair John Robertson, current board chair Michelle Johnson, and other key volunteers who contribute to the Foster Grandparent Program and the Friendship Café; and

WHEREAS, Senior Connections has been recognized with many awards, including the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging's Aging Innovations & Achievement Award; the Valentine Museum's Richmond History Makers Award; the Commonwealth Council on Aging's First Place Best Practices Award for the Chronic Diseases Self-Management Education Program, Advance Care Planning, and the Money Management Initiative; and Health Quality Innovators' Health Innovations Award; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Senior Connections, the Capital Area Agency on Aging, for playing a vital role in helping local residents age with dignity by providing education, advocacy, and support; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Senior Connections, the Capital Area Agency on Aging, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for fostering independence and healthy aging, and improving the quality of life for older adults, their families, and their caregivers through comprehensive programs and services.

INTRODUCED

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