

## 2020 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 485

Offered March 2, 2020

*Commending Community Living Alternatives.*

Patron—Tran

WHEREAS, Community Living Alternatives, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that provides residential support services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, has positively impacted the Northern Virginia community for many years; and

WHEREAS, Community Living Alternatives was founded in 1987 by Dr. Susan Perlik and other advocates with a mission to help adults living with intellectual and developmental disabilities secure stable housing to better enable them to achieve their life goals; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, Community Living Alternatives was licensed by what is now the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to transition four adults from institutions into an independent facility, the first four-bed intermediate care facility in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, over the past three decades, Community Living Alternatives has expanded into 10 additional group homes in Fairfax County while providing supervised residential services in Arlington County; and

WHEREAS, today, Community Living Alternatives helps more than 40 individuals manage the burden of finding stable housing, promoting their development and enhancing their ability to engage with their community, family, and friends; and

WHEREAS, collaborating with county support coordinators, families, and experts, Community Living Alternatives tailors their services to the unique needs of each individual, ensuring the individual receives the maximum benefit from their programs; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Community Living Alternatives began to pursue ownership of its properties in order to ensure greater consistency in the lives of its program's participants; by 2010, through the generosity of its community partners, more than 80 percent of its residents live in homes owned by Community Living Alternatives; and

WHEREAS, by providing residential services and support to their neighbors with intellectual and developmental disabilities, Community Living Alternatives contributes to the well-being of the Commonwealth and serves as an inspiration to all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Community Living Alternatives for its many years of service on behalf of others in need; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jack Porter, president of Community Living Alternatives, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's mission and best wishes for its continued success.

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