## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 493**

Commending Peers and Students Taking Action.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 3, 2020 Agreed to by the Senate, March 5, 2020

WHEREAS, Peers and Students Taking Action, a student-run volunteer organization helping children and their families, has provided many leadership opportunities for young people while positively impacting the community; and

WHEREAS, organized into several chapters of four to eight middle school and high school students operating under the guidance of an all-student board of directors, Peers and Students Taking Action (PASTA) is a nonprofit that facilitates civic-minded projects by providing mentorship, advice, and resources to its members; and

WHEREAS, through its Nothing's ImPASTAble program, PASTA connects students in the 3rd through 6th grades with high school counterparts who act as tutors, mentors, and role models; and

WHEREAS, PASTA proactively supports families in the community undergoing crises by providing tutoring, babysitting, friendship programs, requested items, and tributes to families affected by calamities such as house fires, illnesses, the loss of family members, and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, in order to respond to the growing interest in its activities, PASTA recently established a mentorship program to streamline the training process for its burgeoning number of new chapters, helping initiates better understand the organization's mission so they can implement its programs both responsibly and effectively; and

WHEREAS, by demonstrating the power younger generations have to make profound and meaningful contributions on behalf of others, the members of PASTA embody the spirit of community and conviviality that makes the Commonwealth a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Peers and Students Taking Action, a student-led organization dedicated to serving children and families, for its inspiring display of compassion and support; and, be it

RESOLVED FÜRTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Peers and Students Taking Action as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's mission and best wishes for its continued success.