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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 12

Offered January 8, 2020

Prefiled January 7, 2020

Commending Rajput Indian Cuisine.

Patron—Heretick

WHEREAS, Rajput Indian Cuisine, a pair of Indian restaurants in Hampton Roads, celebrates its 20th anniversary on January 19, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the owner and operator of Rajput Indian Cuisine, Y. Paul Chhabra, was born in India and moved to the United States in 1986, beginning a career in the restaurant industry shortly thereafter on Long Island, New York; and

WHEREAS, after a brief tenure as co-owner of Nawab Indian Cuisine in Norfolk in the early 1990s, Paul Chhabra returned to India to spend time with family and enhance his skills as a restaurateur; and

WHEREAS, upon Paul Chhabra's return to Hampton Roads in 1999, he established Rajput Indian Cuisine in downtown Hampton, later moving in 2003 to the Ghent neighborhood in Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, since its founding, Rajput Indian Cuisine has offered patrons a transporting dining experience marked by delicious culinary creations, an inviting ambiance, and impeccable service; and

WHEREAS, providing a broad range of traditional Indian dishes, including vegan, vegetarian, organic, and kosher selections, Rajput Indian Cuisine built itself on a foundation of quality, authenticity, and attention to detail; and

WHEREAS, in the restaurant's early years, Paul Chhabra would frequently travel as far as Washington, D.C., to acquire spices and ingredients that were not available locally, working tirelessly to provide the best for his customers; and

WHEREAS, after the success of its Norfolk location, Rajput Indian Cuisine expanded into a second location in Suffolk; the restaurants now offer top-notch catering services for events large and small, from weddings to corporate retreats; and

WHEREAS, for many years, Rajput Indian Cuisine has endeared itself to local vegetarians, vegans, and others through its "First and Third Wednesdays," when the evening's buffet spread is exclusively non-meat dishes; and

WHEREAS, Paul Chhabra has actively supported many local and national civic organizations, including the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank and March of Dimes, underscoring the generous spirit that guides Rajput Indian Cuisine and its involvement with the community; and

WHEREAS, Rajput Indian Cuisine has both encouraged newcomers to Indian cuisine and impressed the most discerning curry lovers, offering a restaurant experience that has contributed greatly to the quality of life in Hampton Roads; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Rajput Indian Cuisine, a cherished group of restaurants in the Hampton Roads area, hereby be commended on the occasion of its 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Y. Paul Chhabra, owner of Rajput Indian Cuisine, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his contributions to the Commonwealth and best wishes for the future.

INTRODUCED

HR12