2020 SESSION

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 199

Commending Equality Loudoun.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 2020

WHEREAS, Equality Loudoun, a grassroots advocacy organization working to advance and protect equal rights for LGBTQ+ individuals in Loudoun County, was officially established as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Equality Loudoun has been active since 2003, working to ensure that Loudoun County is a welcoming and inclusive place for all people; and

WHEREAS, after a temporary hiatus in the 2010s, Equality Loudoun relaunched in May 2017 and has since promoted several worthwhile endeavors to further its mission; and

WHEREAS, Equality Loudoun was a key advocate in support of Loudoun County Public Schools' recent decision to add gender identity and sexual orientation to its equal opportunity policy; and

WHEREAS, through its #BigGayBookDrive program, Equality Loudoun has collected and distributed more than 600 age-appropriate books that positively portray LGBTQ+ people to 33 schools throughout Loudoun County; and

WHEREAS, Equality Loudoun has fostered an active and engaged LGBTQ+ community in Loudoun County through various social events, programs, and activities both during Pride Month and throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, to honor victims of anti-transgender violence, Equality Loudoun held its first annual Transgender Day of Remembrance vigil on November 20, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Equality Loudoun's leadership, vision, and dedication embody the spirit of love and tolerance that makes the Commonwealth a wonderful place to live, work, and play; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Equality Loudoun hereby be commended for its support of the LGBTQ+ communities in Loudoun County and the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Equality Loudoun as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's mission and best wishes for its continued success.