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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 622

Offered January 22, 2021

Commending the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® .

Patrons—Bulova, Convirs-Fowler, Helmer, Hope, Keam, Levine, Lopez, Murphy, Plum, Simon, Sullivan and Watts; Senators: Boysko, Howell and Surovell

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS®, one of the largest local member organizations of the National Association of REALTORS®, is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2021; and

WHEREAS, originally known as the Alexandria-Arlington-Fairfax Real Estate Board, the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® was founded on July 22, 1921; and

WHEREAS, beginning with just 16 members, the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® has grown to include more than 12,000 REALTORS®; the association is the largest of 28 local associations that comprise the Virginia REALTORS®; and

WHEREAS, John G. Graham, a founding member who realized that new forms of transportation such as the electric trolley and the automobile would transform the way Northern Virginians lived and worked, served as the first president of the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS®; and

WHEREAS, Derrick Swaak, a dedicated REALTOR® with more than 25 years of commercial and residential experience, is serving as the current president, and Ryan McLaughlin is the chief executive officer of the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® during the association's centennial year; and

WHEREAS, Tom Stevens, a past president of the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS®, went on to serve as president of the National Association of REALTORS® in 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® provides exceptional value to its members, drives innovation in the real estate industry, and empowers REALTORS® to impact the industry through advocacy, community engagement, and training and professional resources; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® are major contributors to the state economy, facilitating approximately \$13 billion annually in residential and commercial real estate transactions on behalf of buyers and sellers, as well as property management; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® was a founding member of the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance, formed in 1987 to advocate for transportation advancements to support the economy and quality of life in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® promotes the principles of fair housing for all; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® recognizes that homeownership is key to the American dream and works to make that dream accessible to all; and

WHEREAS, members of the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® are held to a high ethical standard and adhere to the REALTOR® Code of Ethics; and

WHEREAS, community outreach is central to the association's mission, and the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® is dedicated to providing support to charitable organizations in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® will commemorate its centennial year with special programs and events throughout 2021; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS® on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Derrick Swaak, president of the Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS®, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the association's achievements and contributions to the Northern Virginia community and the real estate profession.

INTRODUCED

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