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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 246

Offered January 25, 2021

Commending journalists in Virginia.

Patrons—Gooditis, Keam, Levine, Lopez and Roem

WHEREAS, journalists at free and independent news outlets in the Commonwealth work diligently to uphold truth and professionalism in their reporting; and

WHEREAS, journalists play a valuable role in documenting local history and keeping residents informed of decisions and events that impact their everyday lives; and

WHEREAS, journalists covering local and state government promote transparency and work to hold elected representatives and officials accountable to their constituents; and

WHEREAS, journalists strengthen the nation's democratic institutions by encouraging civic engagement and building public awareness of the political process; and

WHEREAS, free and independent journalism is all the more important in the digital age, when disinformation campaigns fueled by increased political polarization can spread quickly across the Internet; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That journalists in Virginia hereby be commended for their vitally important work to keep the residents of the Commonwealth engaged and informed; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to representatives of journalists at free and independent news outlets in the Commonwealth as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the positive impact journalists have on the lives of Virginians and appreciation for their role in strengthening American democracy.