

# 2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 666

Offered January 30, 2021

*Commending the City of Fredericksburg.*

Patrons—Cole, M.L. and Cole, J.G.; Senators: Reeves and Stuart

WHEREAS, the City of Fredericksburg was awarded five Local Champion Awards by the Virginia Municipal League in 2020 for its efforts to ensure the health and safety of its citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Municipal League, a nonpartisan, nonprofit association of local governments throughout the Commonwealth, recognized Fredericksburg in five of the seven Local Champion Award categories, including public safety, economic and business stability, continuity of operations, education and youth initiatives, and risk management; and

WHEREAS, the Local Champion Award for public safety recognized the Fredericksburg Fire Department for quickly adapting its operation strategies and procedures to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 while continuing to provide exceptional emergency services to the community; and

WHEREAS, Fredericksburg's Economic Development and Tourism office received the Local Champion Award for economic and business stability in light of their responsiveness to the needs of the city's business community during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the implementation of two small business grant programs and an information campaign; and

WHEREAS, the Local Champion Award for continuity of operations celebrated the Fredericksburg Information Technology Department, the City Attorney, and the Clerk of Council for enabling the Fredericksburg City Council and various boards to conduct meetings electronically as early as March 20, 2020, limiting the need for in-person meetings; and

WHEREAS, Jenny Casarotti, superintendent of Fredericksburg Parks, Recreation and Events, was distinguished with the Local Champion Award for education and youth initiatives for spearheading the "Camp at Home" summer program, which provided countless families a fun and creative way to engage children while sheltering in place; and

WHEREAS, the Local Champion Award for risk management heralded the accomplishments of the Fredericksburg executive leadership team and staff of the Safety and Risk Management Department and Public Facilities Department in implementing preventive measures and procedures that safeguarded city employees from the risks of COVID-19; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the City of Fredericksburg for winning five Virginia Municipal League Local Champion Awards in honor of the city and its employees' efforts to combat the historic COVID-19 pandemic; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Mary Katherine Greenlaw, mayor at-large of the City of Fredericksburg, as an expression of the General Assembly's high esteem and admiration for the city's accomplishments.

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