

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 721

Offered February 2, 2021

Commending the Fairfax County Park Authority.

Patrons—Filler-Corn, Bulova, Delaney, Helmer, Keam, Kory, Levine, Murphy, Plum, Sickles, Sullivan, Tran and Watts; Senators: Boysko, Howell and Petersen

WHEREAS, for more than 70 years, the Fairfax County Park Authority has worked to preserve the natural resources and cultural heritage of the Commonwealth and promote healthy lifestyle choices by offering a wide range of recreational experiences; and

WHEREAS, established by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on December 6, 1950, the Fairfax County Park Authority has grown from one 14-acre park in Great Falls to more than 427 parks, 325 miles of trails, recreational centers, nature centers, historic properties, golf courses, and athletics fields across 23,500 acres of land throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Park Authority offers many distinctive resources and amenities, including an indoor water park, an ice skating rink, five working carousels, and a horticulture center; the park system features historic properties available for rent, as well as a working grist mill at a restored 18th-century home and a restored 1930s-era working farm; and

WHEREAS, accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies, the Fairfax County Park Authority has received countless state and national accolades in recognition of its outstanding facilities and programming, park management, communications and marketing, environmental stewardship, and overall excellence, including multiple Gold Medal Awards from the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration and the National Recreation and Park Association; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Park Authority is led by a 12-member citizen board appointed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and the Fairfax County Park Foundation works to supplement county funding by obtaining grants and building community partnerships to support land preservation projects, special events, and services for low-income children and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Park Authority will commemorate its 70th anniversary year with a virtual photo album featuring contributions from local residents, an interactive timeline of park histories, and numerous other activities, contests, and events; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Fairfax County Park Authority on the occasion of its 70th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Fairfax County Park Authority as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the Authority's stewardship of the environment and service to the residents of and visitors to Fairfax County.

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