

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

21200454D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 615

Offered February 25, 2021

Commending Just Neighbors.

Patrons—Tran, Ayala, Delaney, Guzman, Hope, Keam, Kory, Krizek, Levine, Lopez, Mundon King, Murphy, Plum, Reid, Sickles, Simon and Watts

WHEREAS, Just Neighbors, a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving the immigrant community of the Greater Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, commemorates its 25th anniversary in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Just Neighbors operates with a mission to provide exemplary legal services to low-income immigrants, asylees, and refugees in the Commonwealth, Maryland, and Washington, D.C., and to foster community through education, advocacy, and volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, Just Neighbors was founded in 1996 by pastors and attorneys with the United Methodist Church who were seeking a way to show compassion and hospitality toward local immigrants and to help them navigate the legal challenges they face when settling in the United States; and

WHEREAS, two years after opening its main office in Falls Church, Just Neighbors expanded to Herndon to serve the growing immigrant community in the Counties of Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William; and

WHEREAS, after relocating for some years to Arlington County and then back to Falls Church, the main office of Just Neighbors has been in Annandale since 2017; and

WHEREAS, Just Neighbors has built a collaborative network of nonprofit organizations, volunteers, local faith-based groups, and pro bono lawyers to fulfill its mission; and

WHEREAS, by providing immigrants of all nationalities, faiths, and backgrounds with reliable legal information and services, Just Neighbors has helped countless individuals and families thrive in their newfound communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Just Neighbors, a nonprofit organization serving immigrants in the Greater Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, hereby be commended on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Erin McKenney, executive director of Just Neighbors, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's contributions to the Commonwealth.

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