HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 799

Commending the FRIENDS Association for Children.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, August 5, 2021

WHEREAS, for 150 years, the FRIENDS Association for Children has helped young people in Richmond reach their fullest potential and become active members of their communities; and

WHEREAS, established in 1871, the FRIENDS Association for Children was originally an orphanage in Richmond's historic Jackson Ward and was founded by Lucy Goode Brooks, a former slave who taught herself to read and write; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the FRIENDS Association for Children refocused its mission and now operates two licensed, multiservice child development centers in Gilpin Court and Church Hill; and

WHEREAS, serving children between the ages of six weeks and 17 years, the FRIENDS Association for Children strives to build a safe, nurturing, and intellectually stimulating environment for children to learn and grow; and

WHEREAS, the FRIENDS Association for Children helps children achieve a better understanding of their community, while developing strong foundations for the social and academic skills they need to succeed in later schooling; and

WHEREAS, in addition to its child development and youth development programs, the FRIENDS Association for Children offers a family development program to support families by providing critical services to families as a unit; and

WHEREAS, the FRIENDS Association for Children has fulfilled its mission through the hard work of its dedicated staff members and the generosity and support of volunteers and community partners; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the FRIENDS Association for Children hereby be commended on the occasion of its 150th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the FRIENDS Association for Children as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's legacy of service to young people in Richmond.