

## 2022 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 146

Offered January 21, 2022

*Designating January, in 2022 and in each succeeding year, as Tamil Heritage Month in Virginia.*

Patrons—Bulova, Subramanyam, Convirs-Fowler, Delaney, Filler-Corn, Helmer, Keam, Maldonado, Rasoul, Reid, Shin, Sickles and Tran; Senator: Hashmi

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, January is an important month for the Tamil community in Virginia, with Tamil Harvest Festival, Thai Pongal, and other Tamil artistic and cultural events taking place throughout the month; and

WHEREAS, Tamil is one of the longest surviving classical languages in the world, with a traceable history exceeding 2,500 years; and

WHEREAS, the Tamil community is widespread, with about 90 million native speakers across the globe; Tamil is an official language in India, Sri Lanka, and Singapore and a minority language in Malaysia, South Africa, Mauritius, and Canada; and

WHEREAS, members of the Tamil American community have established deep roots and flourished in communities throughout Virginia, enriching the Commonwealth's social, cultural, economic, and political fabric; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Tamil American community in the Commonwealth are committed to sharing its vibrant traditions and rich, inclusive heritage with their fellow Virginians; and

WHEREAS, Tamil Heritage Month is an opportunity to remember, celebrate, and educate future generations about the inspirational role that Tamil Virginians have played and continue to play in communities across the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate January, in 2022 and in each succeeding year, as Tamil Heritage Month in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to representatives of the Tamil American community in Virginia so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this month on the General Assembly's website.

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