

2023 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 638

Offered February 8, 2023

Commending Generation Joshua.

Patrons—Greenhalgh and LaRock; Senators: DeSteph, Cosgrove and Reeves

WHEREAS, Generation Joshua, a youth civics and leadership program organized by the Home School Legal Defense Association and headquartered in Purcellville, celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2023; and

WHEREAS, Generation Joshua was founded in December 2003 by Michael Farris, Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) President Mike Smith, and the HSLDA Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Generation Joshua is "to inspire and equip young leaders and citizens to influence the political and civic process for good"; and

WHEREAS, since its first event in 2004, Generation Joshua has trained more than 28,000 students through a variety of programs and initiatives, including online courses, immersive simulations, and in-person advocacy groups; and

WHEREAS, Generation Joshua's programs are utilized by public schools, private schools, and home schools and provide students with a forum in which they can strengthen their beliefs and put them to practice; and

WHEREAS, Generation Joshua's online civics courses were instrumental for many students during the COVID-19 pandemic, helping them navigate the challenges posed by the historic public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, Generation Joshua runs immersive simulations, including its iGovern leadership camps and government intensives, to give students valuable experience as they imagine themselves in the positions of government executives and politicians; and

WHEREAS, Generation Joshua supports student-led "GenJ Clubs" across the nation, which offer students the opportunity to learn more about their country, discuss current events, build relationships with their elected officials, and serve their local communities; and

WHEREAS, Generation Joshua aspires to establish a local GenJ Club in every congressional district in the nation to allow the organization to more fully achieve its mission and objectives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Generation Joshua, a youth civics and leadership program supporting students and families in the Commonwealth and beyond, on the occasion of its 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Generation Joshua as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's contributions to the Commonwealth.

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