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**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 465**

Offered February 23, 2023

*Commending Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville/Albemarle.*

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Patron—Hudson

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WHEREAS, for 40 years, Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville/Albemarle has fulfilled its mission to promote adult literacy through equitable, inclusive, free, confidential, one-to-one English language and citizenship test tutoring; and

WHEREAS, in 1983, local residents in the area recognized a need for a program to improve adult literacy in Charlottesville and Albemarle County, leading to the formation of a small volunteer group that wrote organizational guidelines and bylaws and elected a board of directors; and

WHEREAS, George C. Tramontin, a former superintendent of Charlottesville City Schools and an inaugural member of the board, provided instrumental leadership in the early years of the program; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Jeannie Baliles prioritized adult literacy in the Commonwealth and oversaw the establishment of the Virginia Literacy Foundation, which provided grants to relevant organizations like the adult reading program serving the Charlottesville and Albemarle County communities; and

WHEREAS, from its humble beginnings in a small office space on Water Street that was shared with the Charlottesville Office of Economic Development, the reading program continued to grow and provide outstanding services to adults with poor literacy and subsequently became an affiliate of Literacy Volunteers of America; and

WHEREAS, as the number of students served continued to increase, Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville/Albemarle hired a program director and an executive director to better serve the community and ultimately moved to its current location at the Jefferson School City Center; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, the Virginia Literacy Foundation presented the Jeannie P. Baliles Award to Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville/Albemarle in recognition of its outstanding achievements; and

WHEREAS, Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville/Albemarle strives to create a welcoming, thoughtful, and encouraging multicultural environment in which all learners can improve their ability to understand, speak, read, write, and communicate in English, allowing them to more fully participate in community life; and

WHEREAS, Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville/Albemarle has fulfilled its mission over the years through the hard work of its staff members and the generosity and dedication of its volunteers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville/Albemarle hereby be commended on the occasion of its 40th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville/Albemarle as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's contributions to adult literacy among underserved communities.

INTRODUCED

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