

## 2012 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 54

Offered January 11, 2012

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*Commending Physicians for Peace.*

Patron—Stolle

WHEREAS, founded in 1989 on the premise by Dr. Charles E. Horton, Sr., that "if you heal someone, you help one person, but if you teach someone to heal, you help many," Physicians for Peace, headquartered in Norfolk, seeks to build peace and international friendship through medicine; and

WHEREAS, since 1989, physician, nurse, dentist, physical therapist, and other medical professional volunteers associated with Physicians for Peace have conducted medical missions in more than 60 countries; and

WHEREAS, top medical professionals in their fields selflessly volunteer to serve as medical "diplomats" to deliver quality healthcare training, treatment, and supplies where help is desperately needed, and to empower local residents to help themselves; and

WHEREAS, Physicians for Peace has successfully built partnerships with government organizations, private entities, and universities, providing access to an international pool of medical educators and volunteers who build sustainable programs in the countries they serve; and

WHEREAS, Physicians for Peace also donates medical and dental equipment, medicines, and supplies valued at tens of millions of dollars annually to support the continued care in host countries; and

WHEREAS, Physicians for Peace has developed programs to reduce disability and death in children due to fire-related burns that occur frequently in developing countries; the work and improvements to their quality of life have turned tears into smiles for many children; and

WHEREAS, the "Walking Free" internationally acclaimed program designed by Physicians for Peace assists by providing prosthetic and rehabilitation centers; more than 785 amputees in Haiti can now return to their daily work due to the efforts of Physicians for Peace; and

WHEREAS, because of preventable diseases and poor healthcare, maternal and infant death rates are rising in developing countries; and

WHEREAS, Physicians for Peace designed a Women's and Children's Health Initiative to reduce infant mortality and maternal morbidity, which provides education about pre-natal care, childbirth, and newborn care to help promote healthier and happier families; and

WHEREAS, Physicians for Peace transforms lives by training, supporting, and empowering healthcare professionals working with the world's underserved populations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Physicians for Peace for its efforts to provide quality healthcare education in developing nations; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Physicians for Peace as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's commitment to helping those in need around the world.

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