

2013 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5013

Commending Stop Child Abuse Now of Northern Virginia.

Agreed to by the Senate, April 3, 2013

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, April 3, 2013

WHEREAS, in 2013, Stop Child Abuse Now of Northern Virginia will celebrate its 25th year of serving children and families in Northern Virginia through programs and services that keep children safe, strengthen parenting skills, and provide advocacy in the courts, legislature, and community; and

WHEREAS, Stop Child Abuse Now (SCAN) of Northern Virginia believes that preventing child abuse and neglect is a community responsibility that depends on involvement of every sector of the community because the majority of child abuse cases occur when people find themselves in stressful situations without community resources and they don't know how to cope—situations that are preventable in an engaged and supportive community; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, a group of citizens concerned about abused and neglected children in Northern Virginia came together under the leadership of David Cleary to found SCAN of Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, SCAN of Northern Virginia's child abuse prevention programs offer a continuum of services to protect children and support and educate parents that range from volunteer advocates in the courtroom to intensive parenting classes and educational parent support groups to an online program, the Parent Resource Center, which provides information on a variety of parenting challenges; and

WHEREAS, SCAN of Northern Virginia trains and supervises volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) volunteers who work collaboratively with the Arlington and Alexandria Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts, social workers, mental health experts, and others to ensure that abused and neglected children obtain safe, stable, permanent homes as quickly as possible; and

WHEREAS, SCAN of Northern Virginia created the Allies in Prevention Coalition, an alliance comprised of child welfare professionals and family violence prevention advocates from five major Northern Virginia jurisdictions that communicates regional messages to prevent child abuse and to promote children's well-being in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, SCAN of Northern Virginia works to encourage citizens, agencies, organizations, faith groups, health care providers, and businesses to get involved in supporting families to help prevent child abuse and strengthen the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Stop Child Abuse Now of Northern Virginia on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Stop Child Abuse Now of Northern Virginia as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the organization's work to help children and families.

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