

2016 SESSION

INTRODUCED

16105398D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 167

Offered February 25, 2016

Commending the George Washington University Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders Institute.

Patron—Greason

WHEREAS, the George Washington University Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders Institute, a cross-disciplinary autism research institution based on the Virginia Science and Technology Campus of George Washington University, opens in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders Institute (AND Institute) was created as a comprehensive authority on the study of all autism spectrum disorders, with goals to expand knowledge on understudied areas of research; and

WHEREAS, utilizing growing bodies of work on brain imaging and the study of the "social brain," the AND Institute plans to enhance and expand research on autism in girls, development of interventions for adolescents and adults with autism, and programs to help adolescents with autism transition to adulthood; and

WHEREAS, George Washington University selected Kevin Pelphrey, a respected global leader in autism research as the AND Institute's inaugural director; he has been at the forefront of autism research for most of his career and specializes in the study of the "social brain"; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Pelphrey previously served as a professor of psychology at Yale University and as the Harris Professor in the Yale Child Study Center; he is well-suited to helping the AND Institute conduct the critical research that could positively affect the 1 in 68 children living with autism nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Pelphrey hopes to establish a summer course for professional clinicians and families who are helping adolescents with autism transition to adulthood, undergraduate courses for students interested in autism research, and a residential college for young adults with autism; and

WHEREAS, the AND Institute was developed in partnership with the Children's National Medical Center and with input from faculty members of George Washington University's Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Law, Graduate School of Education and Human Development, School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and the Milken Institute of Public Health; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the George Washington University Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders Institute hereby be commended on the occasion of its opening in 2016; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Kevin Pelphrey, director of the George Washington University Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders Institute, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the institute's important mission and best wishes for the future.

INTRODUCED

HR167