

2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 142

Designating the third Sunday of September, in 2018 and in each succeeding year, as Recovery Sunday in Virginia.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 12, 2018

Agreed to by the Senate, March 5, 2018

WHEREAS, in January 2017, the Middle Peninsula Opioid Addiction Task Force, a diverse group of health care professionals, law-enforcement officers, public officials, and religious leaders, met to address the heroin and opioid addiction crisis affecting the entire Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, after months of meetings, the Middle Peninsula Opioid Addiction Task Force identified a crucial need for faith communities to play a larger role in educating the public about the dangers of opioid addiction and options for treatment and recovery; and

WHEREAS, the Recovery Sunday organization was created to support church leaders as they seek to give a theological voice to addiction and recovery by dedicating certain Sundays to the discussion of these important issues; and

WHEREAS, the Recovery Sunday organization offers free sermon outlines, small group and Sunday school lesson plans, responsive readings, music, and artwork to help churches organize a meaningful and engaging event; and

WHEREAS, Recovery Sundays provide a unique opportunity for a congregation to pray for those struggling with addiction, learn about the causes of this disease, build partnerships with local recovery organizations, provide support for members of the community in need, or start a recovery ministry; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate the third Sunday of September, in 2018 and in each succeeding year, as Recovery Sunday in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to Recovery Sunday so that members of the organization may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.

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