## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 144**

Designating February 13, 2018, as Sorensen Day in Virginia, in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership at the University of Virginia.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 12, 2018 Agreed to by the Senate, March 5, 2018

WHEREAS, the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership at the University of Virginia was established by a group of public-spirited citizens in 1993 to improve political leadership and strengthen the quality of governance at all levels in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Sorensen Institute prepares Virginia's emerging leaders for public service as candidates for office, government officials, and active citizens in the affairs of their communities, the Commonwealth, and the nation through educational programs designed around public policy, ethics, and practical politics; and

WHEREAS, the Sorensen Institute's Political Leaders Program, Emerging Leaders Program, Candidate Training Program, College Leaders Program, and High School Leaders Program can now claim some 2,200 alumni, including Governor Ralph S. Northam, current and former members of the General Assembly on both sides of the aisle, public servants at the local and federal level, and many community leaders; and

WHEREAS, the alumni of the Sorensen Institute provide an example of ethical and respectful behavior that respects differences of opinion and seeks cooperation amid the policy battles and political campaigns that define our public life; and

WHEREAS, Sorensen alumni build bonds of friendship across ideological lines and from one end of the Commonwealth to the other, which serve to strengthen the legislative and policy process and improve the tone of our debates and campaigns; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate February 13, 2018, as Sorensen Day in Virginia, in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership at the University of Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership at the University of Virginia as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the continuing contributions of the institute's distinguished alumni to public life in the Commonwealth; 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.