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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 194

Offered February 2, 2018

Commending Helen Sorto Zurita.

Patrons—Carter; Senator: McPike

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WHEREAS, Helen Sorto Zurita, a Manassas resident and community advocate, has spent more than 12 months advocating on behalf of the residents of the East End Mobile Home Park; and

WHEREAS, Helen Sorto Zurita assisted the residents of the East End Mobile Home Park in filing a tenant's assertion case to combat unsuitable living conditions and a pending eviction from their homes; and

WHEREAS, Helen Sorto Zurita spent many hours on the property of the mobile home park, communicating with residents, providing Spanish translation services, and participating in collecting necessary paperwork from the residents; and

WHEREAS, Helen Sorto Zurita partnered with individuals in the community, attorneys, other community advocates, and nonprofit organizations, including Catholics for Housing and Save Our Homes Alliance, to form a strategy to help the residents of the mobile home park remain in their homes; and

WHEREAS, Helen Sorto Zurita advocated on behalf of the East End Mobile Home Park residents before meetings of the Manassas City Council and in the media; and

WHEREAS, Helen Sorto Zurita played a significant role in arranging for Catholics for Housing to purchase the mobile home park property, to bring the property into code, and to make upgrades that allow the residents to remain in their homes and improve their living conditions; and

WHEREAS, Helen Sorto Zurita has shown bravery, integrity, transparency, and compassion in assisting the residents of the East End Mobile Home Park; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Helen Sorto Zurita for her advocacy on behalf of the residents of East End Mobile Home Park; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Helen Sorto Zurita as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and respect for her passionate pursuit of justice.