

2018 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 320

Offered February 21, 2018

Commending People to People.

Patrons—Price and Mullin; Senator: Mason

WHEREAS, People to People, a nonprofit organization committed to promoting positive race relations, diversity, and improved quality of life for the residents of Newport News, celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2017; and

WHEREAS, People to People was formed by a group of civic leaders on September 24, 1992, in response to a series of race-related controversies in Newport News; one of the organization's primary missions is to create a greater understanding of racial issues by facilitating public forums where community members can openly discuss the city's problems and needs; and

WHEREAS, committed to the belief that communication is a key part of building healthy communities, People to People hosts public meetings and monthly executive committee sessions designed to monitor issues that might become flashpoints of racial misunderstanding; and

WHEREAS, People to People's public forums have featured many prominent figures in American race relations and diversity and routinely draw crowds of several hundred citizens; and

WHEREAS, People to People has worked closely with the youth of Newport News through annual race relations summits and training seminars; it has also sponsored events for teens in partnership with the National Conference for Community and Justice of the Piedmont Triad, Inc., and created programs for the Newport News Children's Festival of Friends; and

WHEREAS, in addition to race relations and diversity, People to People has worked to provide community responses and constructive solutions to a variety of other issues, including poverty, education, housing, road construction, crime, and gang violence; and

WHEREAS, since its founding, People to People has served as a resource for open and honest discussions that have facilitated better understanding and cooperation in the Newport News community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend People to People on its years of service to the residents of Newport News on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to People to People as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its commitment to diversity, inclusion, and strong community partnerships.

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