## 2019 SESSION

## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 713**

Commending Ted Gong.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 21, 2019 Agreed to by the Senate, February 18, 2019

WHEREAS, Ted Gong, national vice president for Civic and Public Affairs of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, has been named a distinguished Frederick Douglass 200 awardee; and

WHEREAS, the Frederick Douglass 200 project honors outstanding individuals like Ted Gong for embodying the work and spirit of the celebrated American abolitionist and statesman whose influence extended into politics, feminism, writing, education, entrepreneurship, and diplomacy; and

WHEREAS, Ted Gong is a Fairfax resident who grew up in California, attending Orosi High School and University of California Santa Cruz; he was a foreign service diplomat in the United States Department of State, serving in East Asia and working on policy related to migration and border management, and is the current president of the Washington, D.C., chapter of the National Chinese American Citizens Alliance; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his leadership roles within the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, Ted Gong serves as executive director of the 1882 Project Foundation, which aims to teach the historical and continued significance of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and is devoted to civil rights issues and immigration reform for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders; and

WHEREAS, Ted Gong joins the Diplomats of the Frederick Douglass 200, all of whom are acknowledged for "thriving in delicate and divisive situations, often inspiring those most depleted of inspiration"; and

WHEREAS, Ted Gong and the other esteemed awardees, including many prominent leaders, will receive their award on Frederick Douglass' 201st birthday on February 14, 2019, at a ceremony at the Library of Congress; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Ted Gong, national vice president for Civic and Public Affairs of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, for being named a distinguished Frederick Douglass 200 awardee; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Ted Gong as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his advocacy on behalf of Chinese Americans and his service to the country.