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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 325

Offered January 24, 2019

Commending Voices for Virginia's Children.

Patrons—Dunnavant, Barker, Chase, Hanger, Howell and McClellan; Delegates: Adams, D.M. and Rodman

WHEREAS, for the past 25 years, Voices for Virginia's Children has championed public policies that improve the lives of the Commonwealth's children; and

WHEREAS, Voices for Virginia's Children (Voices) was founded in 1994 by a nonpartisan group of concerned citizens from across the Commonwealth, including two former First Ladies of Virginia, with the support of the Freddie Mac Foundation and the Annie E. Casey Foundation; and

WHEREAS, using the KIDS COUNT data system, Voices tracks and analyzes statistics about children to identify the root problems they are facing; and

WHEREAS, Voices educates policymakers about solutions that research and experience have demonstrated benefit children; and

WHEREAS, Voices mobilizes voters and partner organizations to advocate for changes in laws, funding priorities, and systems that result in better outcomes for children; and

WHEREAS, Voices focuses on young children whose needs are often unaddressed, such as those with mental health challenges, those in the child welfare system, those who have experienced trauma, and those whose families are economically disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, Voices' approach to advocacy has evolved as the organization has matured over 25 years, and that has translated into greater wins for Virginia's children; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Voices for Virginia's Children for its outstanding leadership and effectiveness in improving the lives of the Commonwealth's children on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Margaret Nimmo Holland, executive director, and Keith Hare, chair of the Board of Voices for Virginia's Children, as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for the organization's dedication to the young people of the Commonwealth.

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