## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 213**

Commending Anjali Nair.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 17, 2020 Agreed to by the Senate, February 20, 2020

WHEREAS, Anjali Nair, a junior at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria, was crowned National American Miss Junior Teen for 2019-2020 on December 1, 2019; and WHEREAS, National American Miss is a pageant contest emphasizing grace, poise, confidence, and

an appreciation of one's inner beauty, with state and national competitions for several age groups; and

WHEREAS, crowned the American Miss Virginia Junior Teen in August 2019, Anjali Nair represented the Commonwealth at the 2019 National American Miss Junior Teen pageant in Anaheim, California; and

WHEREAS, at the state and national competitions, Anjali Nair participated in a formal wear segment, a speech, a round robin-style interview, and an onstage questionnaire, requiring her to demonstrate outstanding communication skills to win top honors; and

WHEREAS, Anjali Nair began competing in pageants in 2016 without any prior experience or coaching; after studying videos of previous pageant winners, she put in a first-place runner-up performance at that year's American Miss Virginia Pre-Teen event; and

WHEREAS, Anjali Nair attributes her success to her willingness to be honest and frank with the judges, telling them what she wanted them to know, not what she thought they wanted to know, demonstrating the value these competitions place on self-expression; and

WHEREAS, Anjali Nair developed an interest in engineering through her studies at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology and has consistently encouraged girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through her pageant performances; and

WHEREAS, an animal rights advocate dedicated to placing abandoned animals in loving homes through local rescue foundations, Anjali Nair spoke in support of ways to end needless euthanasia through her speeches and responses to judges; and

WHEREAS, for empowering young women to have confidence in themselves and the determination to pursue their dreams, Anjali Nair is an inspiration to her classmates, teachers, and the entire Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Anjali Nair for being crowned 2019-2020 National American Miss Junior Teen; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Anjali Nair as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her achievements and best wishes for the future.