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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 287

Offered February 20, 2020

Commending the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA.

Patrons—Delaney, Adams, D.M., Murphy, Rasoul, Reid, Samirah and Subramanyam

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, the oldest Muslim American organization in the United States, celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2020; and

WHEREAS, inspired by the life and teachings of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, tens of millions of adherents to the Islamic reformist Ahmadiyya movement have formed communities around the world; and

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, was established on February 15, 1920, when its first missionary, Dr. Mufti Muhammad Sadiq, arrived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, working since to both share their beliefs and serve their neighbors, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, has cultivated strong and productive community relationships in more than 70 local chapters throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Central Virginia chapter of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, has served Fairfax, Loudoun, and Fauquier Counties since 1980, with more than 700 members actively involved in the organization today; and

WHEREAS, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, is led by its international spiritual leader, His Holiness Mirza Masroor Ahmad, a tireless advocate for global peace and interreligious harmony who made notable visits to the United States in 2008, 2012, 2013, and 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, is celebrating its historic centennial year with its "Centennial Day" on February 15, 2020; to honor the occasion, thousands of members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, will gather at mosques throughout the country and later engage in various service projects in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, with its advocacy of peace, justice, and love for one's neighbor, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, embodies many of the values Americans hold most dear, while its influence and support has made it an important part of the nation's history over the past century; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA, as an expression of the General Assembly's earnest admiration and respect for the organization's contributions to the Commonwealth and the country.

INTRODUCED

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