

## 2020 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 196

*Commending the Telugu Association of North America.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 2020

WHEREAS, for more than 40 years, the Telugu Association of North America, the oldest and largest Indo-American organization in the United States, has worked to address the social, cultural, and educational needs and concerns of the Telugu-speaking community; and

WHEREAS, the Telugu Association of North America was established in 1977 and incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 1978 to support speakers of Telugu, one of the most widely spoken languages in India and one of the fastest-growing languages in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Telugu Association of North America has established Telugu language programs and scholarships at educational institutions throughout the United States and hosts writing competitions that have led to new trends in Telugu literature and poetry; and

WHEREAS, the Telugu Association of North America played a critical role in Telugu being recognized by the government of India as a classical language and has helped the language endure in the Internet age by developing information technology tools, such as a Telugu font and online dictionaries; and

WHEREAS, the Telugu Association of North America invites prominent Telugu singers, musicians, dancers, actors, and artists to the United States to introduce their work to new audiences and inspire young people; the organization's conventions and festivals have sustained traditional art forms while building strong community bonds through shared culture; and

WHEREAS, through its charitable arm, the TANA Foundation, the Telugu Association of North America has supported projects related to education, sanitation, disease prevention, and health and wellness in India, as well as food and clothing donation drives, disaster relief efforts, and support for students from low-income families in the United States; and

WHEREAS, with its innovative approaches to cultural preservation and community service, the Telugu Association of North America has been a pioneer for and an inspiration to many other Indian ethnic organizations around the world; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Telugu Association of North America hereby be commended for more than four decades of service to Telugu people in the Commonwealth and throughout the United States; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Telugu Association of North America as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for its contributions to the Telugu community.

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