HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36

Commending Gay Gardner.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 17, 2022 Agreed to by the Senate, January 20, 2022

WHEREAS, in 2021, Gay Gardner received the Suzanne O'Hatnick Award from Interfaith Action for Human Rights for her outstanding accomplishments as an advocate for prison reform; and

WHEREAS, as a member of Interfaith Action for Human Rights, Gay Gardner works with people of different faiths in Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, D.C., to create a better society by ending unnecessarily punitive practices in correctional systems and focusing on initiatives to promote rehabilitation of prisoners; and

WHEREAS, Gay Gardner is a staunch advocate for increased transparency regarding practices and procedures in the Commonwealth's prison system, and she has worked diligently to document instances

of abuse and champion humanitarian reforms; and

WHEREAS, Gay Gardner has worked to end the practice of solitary confinement in the Commonwealth's prisons and spoken about the detrimental effects of solitary confinement on prisoners, especially individuals who are pregnant or facing mental or physical health challenges; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Gay Gardner, winner of the Suzanne O'Hatnick Award, for her humanitarian achievements; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Gay Gardner as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her dedication to criminal justice system reform.