

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 451

Commending the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 10, 2022

Agreed to by the Senate, March 11, 2022

WHEREAS, for 100 years the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars has recognized outstanding 4-H members, 4-H faculty, 4-H staff, and 4-H volunteers who have demonstrated excellence in "learning by doing," leadership, and service in all corners of the Commonwealth and globe; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars was organized at the State 4-H Short Course at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) by three representatives of West Virginia, the first 4-H All Star Chapter, on August 4, 1922; and

WHEREAS, over the course of its 100-year history, over 10,000 Virginia youth and adults have been recognized as Virginia 4-H All Stars, people who serve Virginia as parents, educators, owners, and workers in a diverse array of businesses ranging from agriculture to information technology, members of the General Assembly, judges, other elected and appointed leadership positions at local, state, national, and international levels, and numerous other roles; and

WHEREAS, for 100 years Virginia 4-H All Stars across the Commonwealth have lived up to the motto "Service" in countless ways, especially through supporting local 4-H programs as Extension faculty or staff, and as volunteers who lead, mentor, and teach 4-H'ers research based information, helping them to "Make the Best Better" in their lives and communities as they explore and seek their future roles in society; and

WHEREAS, since 1964 Virginia 4-H All Stars have sponsored local and state 4-H Public Speaking programs, helping generations of 4-H'ers gain and practice speaking and presentation skills through competitions ranging from school and local levels to State 4-H Congress and National 4-H Congress; and

WHEREAS, Virginia 4-H All Stars support the six Virginia 4-H Centers where generations of 4-H'ers camp, gain knowledge and skills, learn to be leaders, and serve their communities and others; and

WHEREAS, Virginia 4-H All Stars established in 1959 scholarships, now permanently funded through the Virginia 4-H Foundation, to support those who seek post-secondary vocational and technical certificates and college and advanced degrees; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia 4-H All Star Chapter has developed recognitions to encourage and celebrate member contributions and accomplishments through the Hall of Fame Award, Bradshaw Service Award, C. Dean Allen Award for international service, Dottie Nelson International Award, and Chapter Charter Award; and

WHEREAS, Virginia 4-H All Stars have held Midwinters Conference annually since 1961, at Natural Bridge between 1961 and 1971, and in many communities across the Commonwealth and at Virginia State University since then, and Summer Conferences on the campus of Virginia Tech, at 4-H Centers and numerous locations across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Virginia 4-H All Stars support the Virginia Association of Volunteer 4-H Leaders to enhance the knowledge and skills of 4-H volunteers, and the IFYE Program and other international exchange opportunities for youth and adults to further global relationships and understanding; and

WHEREAS, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts 4-H All Stars held the first Interstate Conference in Washington, D.C., in 1941, later joined by Mississippi and Tennessee, and since then Virginia has hosted thirteen Interstate Conferences in locations stretching from Virginia Beach to Abingdon; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, 4-H All Stars, 4-H staff, 4-H'ers past and present, and citizens across the Commonwealth will commemorate this important milestone in the organization's long and storied history; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars 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 Big Chief Nancy M. Moga as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's extraordinary history, unparalleled legacy of excellence, and invaluable contributions to the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world.

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