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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 650

Offered May 23, 2022

Commending Leigh Saunders Kitcher.

Patron—Keam

WHEREAS, Leigh Saunders Kitcher has been a leader and dedicated volunteer in the Vienna community for more than 30 years, serving in leadership roles on the boards of Historic Vienna, Inc., the Ayr Hill Garden Club, and the National Capital Area Garden Club; and

WHEREAS, a diligent researcher and determined leader, Leigh Kitcher was selflessly dedicated to the initial planning, organization, implementation, and success of the inaugural Liberty Amendments Month, a commemoration of the passage of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Nineteenth Amendments that granted full rights to citizens who were previously excluded from the U.S. Constitution, that took place from June 19, 2021, through July 19, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Leigh Kitcher's work to conceptualize the Liberty Amendments Month event with Vienna Town Manager Mercury Payton led to the official designation by the General Assembly of the annual Liberty Amendments Month on June 19 through the third Monday in July of each year; and

WHEREAS, Leigh Kitcher's leadership on the Liberty Amendments Advisory Committee and Facilitators groups in 2021 resulted in an astonishingly successful inaugural program, including 65 educational and commemorative events presented to more than 22,000 people; and

WHEREAS, Leigh Kitcher had a hand in each one of the 65 Liberty Amendments Month events that took place in 2021, whether it was providing guidance and creative problem solving or planning, researching, and executing an event from start to finish; and

WHEREAS, Leigh Kitcher dedicated more than 1,000 hours to the Liberty Amendments Month program in 2021; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Leigh Saunders Kitcher hereby be commended for her outstanding leadership and dedication to the success of the inaugural Liberty Amendments Month, a celebration of equality throughout the Vienna community and the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Leigh Saunders Kitcher as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for her work to strengthen cultural values, to bring communities together to foster mutual respect and understanding, and to preserve the heritage and history of the nation through Liberty Amendments Month.