

## 2024 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 340

Offered March 4, 2024

*Commending the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics.*

Patrons—Willett and Carr

WHEREAS, for more than 30 years, the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics has enabled clinics throughout the Commonwealth to provide free access to high quality health care through advocacy and support services; and

WHEREAS, established in 1993, the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics advocates for the needs and concerns of free and charitable clinics statewide, as well as their volunteer workforce of doctors, dentists, nurses, therapists, pharmacists, technicians, community health workers, and other health care professionals; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics believes that everyone deserves access to comprehensive, compassionate care regardless of their ability to pay and that free and charitable clinics play a vital role in the health care process by providing preventative, acute, and chronic care to people who are uninsured or underinsured; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics has witnessed a growing demand for services due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and has worked diligently to help clinics provide in-demand services like dental care, behavioral health care, and substance use disorder programs; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics has helped clinics adapt to changes in technology like implementing telehealth and to address challenges with higher operating costs and workforce shortages; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the 61 member clinics of the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics provided more than \$114 million worth of care to 75,000 Virginians through more than 246,000 patient visits and 363,000 free prescriptions; and

WHEREAS, over the course of its history, the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics has strengthened communities throughout the Commonwealth by addressing health inequities and promoting overall wellness; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics on the occasion of its 30th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's vital mission to facilitate health care for underserved communities.

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