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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 504

Offered January 17, 2025

Commending the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Patrons—Herring, Ennis, Green, Hope, Martinez, McQuinn, Mundon King, Orrock, Rasoul, Reaser, Shin, Ware and Webert; Senators: Bagby, Boysko, Cifers, Ebbin and Reeves

WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures was founded in 1975 and has evolved to become the premier organization solely dedicated to serving state and territorial legislators and legislative staff; and

WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) was created from the merger of three organizations that served or represented state legislatures that shared the belief that legislative service is one of democracy's worthiest pursuits; and

WHEREAS, NCSL is a bipartisan organization with three objectives: to advance the effectiveness, independence, and integrity of state legislatures; to foster communication and cooperation between state legislatures; and to ensure states a strong, cohesive voice for state legislatures in the federal system; and

WHEREAS, as the laboratories of democracy, state legislatures have continually shown that they are able to tackle emerging challenges effectively; NCSL has facilitated the exchange of ideas, provided critical research and information, and encouraged a rigorous review of complex issues confronting local communities, states, and the nation; and

WHEREAS, state legislatures are where people from very different backgrounds, representing very different communities, can come together and find common ground, and NCSL has cultivated and deepened these bonds to create lasting change at the national and international levels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the National Conference of State Legislatures for its superb leadership and commitment to advancing legislative institutions on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the National Conference of State Legislatures as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's contributions to representative government in the Commonwealth and throughout the United States.