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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 568

Offered January 31, 2025

Commending the Egyptian Coptic Christian community in Virginia.

Patron—Owen

WHEREAS, the Egyptian Coptic Christian community traces its roots to one of the oldest Christian traditions, upholding the values of faith, family, and service; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's longstanding commitment to religious liberty, as enshrined in the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, has benefited individuals and families of many faiths and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, Egyptian Coptic Christians have settled in communities throughout Virginia and contributed to the social, cultural, and economic fabric of the Commonwealth in many ways; and

WHEREAS, Egyptian Coptic Christians have created businesses, generated jobs, and fostered economic growth throughout the Commonwealth; they have also been leaders in public service, serving in various local and state roles and promoting civic engagement and community development; and

WHEREAS, Egyptian Coptic Christians have supported academia and innovation by advancing research, technology, and scientific knowledge, both in the Commonwealth's institutions of higher education and the private sector; and

WHEREAS, Egyptian Coptic Christians have enhanced the lives of others by supporting numerous philanthropic initiatives, disaster relief efforts, and community outreach programs; and

WHEREAS, the history and contributions of the Egyptian Coptic Christian community underscores the importance of religious freedom and the right to worship, aligning with the Commonwealth's enduring commitment to personal liberty and pluralism; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Egyptian Coptic Christian community in Virginia hereby be commended for its meaningful contributions to the Commonwealth and its steadfast dedication to faith, family, and freedom; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to representatives of the Egyptian Coptic Christian community in Virginia as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for their continued service and commitment to these shared values.

INTRODUCED

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