

25105108D

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 605

Offered February 6, 2025

Commending Dr. Pepper Park at the Bridges.

Patrons—Rasoul, Austin, Ballard, Davis, McNamara, Obenshain, Williams and Zehr; Senator: Suetterlein

WHEREAS, Dr. Pepper Park at the Bridges, a live music venue in Downtown Roanoke, has hosted countless performances and delighted local audiences for 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the popular soft drink Dr. Pepper has deep roots in the Commonwealth, taking its name from Dr. Charles T. Pepper, who opened Dr. Pepper's Drug Store in Rural Retreat in the 1800s; and

WHEREAS, one of Charles Pepper's former employees, Wade Morrison of Christiansburg, moved to Waco, Texas, to open his own drug store and worked with pharmacist Charles Alderton to formulate the drink; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pepper expanded throughout the nation; in 1936, Bill Davis opened the Commonwealth's first Dr. Pepper bottling plant on McClanahan Street in Roanoke; the plant's iconic bottle cap-shaped sign has become a local landmark, and the Roanoke community maintains one of the highest per capita consumption rates of Dr. Pepper in the country; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pepper Park at the Bridges honors the legacy of Dr. Pepper's role in the community and features concerts, festivals, and other special events from April through October at its unique outdoor venue near the Roanoke River; and

WHEREAS, attending shows at Dr. Pepper Park at the Bridges has become a beloved local tradition in the Roanoke community, and the venue has cultivated strong relationships with other local businesses and organizations to provide the best possible experiences; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Dr. Pepper Park at the Bridges on the occasion of its 10th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dr. Pepper Park at the Bridges as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its contributions to local life in Roanoke.

INTRODUCED

HJ605