

2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 850

Commending the Home School League of Defense.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, April 2, 2025

WHEREAS, the Home School League of Defense, a nonprofit organization headquartered in Purcellville, has advocated for and provided critical resources to homeschooling families throughout the Commonwealth and the United States for more than four decades; and

WHEREAS, the Home School League of Defense traces its roots to the early 1980s, when homeschooling was still illegal in several states; Mike Farris of Olympia, Washington, and Mike Smith of Santa Monica, California, both attorneys, met at a homeschool conference in 1983 and discussed how many of their fellow homeschooling parents were seeking legal counsel and in need of a unified voice; and

WHEREAS, the Home School League of Defense initially represented only a small number of homeschooling families in Washington and California, but as the organization grew, Mike Farris and Mike Smith saw the need to expand the organization and relocate closer to the nation's capital; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Home School League of Defense achieved victories in numerous high-profile cases, built support in communities across the country, and led efforts to legalize home schooling in all 50 states; and

WHEREAS, the Home School League of Defense has expanded to not only support families legally, but practically as well, offering resources to help homeschooling parents give their children the best possible education; and

WHEREAS, the Home School League of Defense currently partners with more than 100,000 member families, donors, home educators, elected officials, and other stakeholders who support homeschooling; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Home School League of Defense hereby be commended for its decades of service to homeschool students and families across the Commonwealth and the nation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Home School League of Defense as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's legacy of achievements.

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