

2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 874

Commending the Braille Circulating Library.

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

WHEREAS, for 100 years, the Braille Circulating Library in Richmond has provided invaluable resources to individuals who are blind or visually impaired; and

WHEREAS, the Braille Circulating Library was founded in 1925 by Louise Harrison McCraw, who recognized the need to improve access to Christian and other inspirational literature for readers who were blind or visually impaired; and

WHEREAS, after operating the library out of her home for some time, Louise Harrison McCraw moved the Braille Circulating Library to her local YMCA; it later became a mission project for Immanuel Baptist Church in Richmond and, in 1972, settled at its current site at the intersection of Mulberry Street and Stuart Avenue in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Louise Harrison McCraw was honored by The Library of Virginia when she was featured in its *Virginia Women in History* exhibition; and

WHEREAS, today, the Braille Circulating Library has an extensive collection of religious materials in braille, including missionary biographies, devotionals, Bible studies, doctrinal materials, and music, that is available to be loaned to readers around the world; and

WHEREAS, the Braille Circulating Library has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to promoting literacy, independence, and access to reading materials for those with visual impairments; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments of the Braille Circulating Library are the result of the steadfast dedication of its staff, volunteers, and supporters, who have helped to foster a love of reading and lifelong learning and enriched the lives of countless individuals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Braille Circulating Library hereby be commended on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Braille Circulating Library as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for its contributions to the blind and visually impaired community in the Commonwealth and beyond.

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