

2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 816

Commending the Langley Flight Foundation.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates July 18, 2024

WHEREAS, the Langley Flight Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the history of Samuel Pierpont Langley's Aerodrome No. 5, the first aircraft to demonstrate the practicability of mechanical flight, opened the "Langley Aerodrome Experience" at the Stafford Regional Airport on May 6, 2024; and

WHEREAS, after working for several years to develop an exhibition that would honor the history of Langley's Aerodrome No. 5, Philip E. Hornung, Chris Hornung, Scott Mayausky, and Sue Henderson formed the Langley Flight Foundation in April 2021 to work with Stafford County to bring their vision to fruition; and

WHEREAS, the Langley Flight Foundation's "Langley Aerodrome Experience" is an exhibition of an exact replica of the Aerodrome No. 5 created by inventor and aviation pioneer Samuel Pierpont Langley, which became the first unpiloted, engine-driven aircraft of substantial size to achieve successful flight when it flew for 90 seconds above the Potomac River in Stafford County on May 6, 1896; and

WHEREAS, in the process of developing the "Langley Aerodrome Experience," the Langley Flight Foundation collaborated with the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, which houses the original Aerodrome No. 5, to better understand this historic aircraft; and

WHEREAS, the Langley Flight Foundation has partnered with Stafford County Public Schools to share its engaging educational program with students in the hopes that it will inspire many to pursue impactful careers in science and aviation; and

WHEREAS, the Langley Flight Foundation has shone fresh light on a major achievement in the history of both aviation and the Commonwealth, giving many a deeper appreciation of our ability to overcome seemingly impossible challenges through critical thinking and hard work; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Langley Flight Foundation hereby be commended for the opening of the "Langley Aerodrome Experience" at the Stafford Regional Airport; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Langley Flight Foundation as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's mission and achievements.

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