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## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 119

Offered February 28, 2018

*Commending Cecile Richards.*

Patrons—Convirs-Fowler, Adams, D.M., Aird, Ayala, Bagby, Bell, John J., Bourne, Boysko, Bulova, Carr, Carroll Foy, Carter, Delaney, Filler-Corn, Gooditis, Guzman, Hayes, Heretick, Herring, Hope, Hurst, James, Jones, J.C., Keam, Kory, Krizek, Levine, Lindsey, Lopez, McQuinn, Mullin, Murphy, Plum, Price, Rasoul, Reid, Rodman, Roem, Sickles, Simon, Sullivan, Torian, Toscano, Tran, Turpin, Tyler, VanValkenburg, Ward and Watts

WHEREAS, in 2018, Cecile Richards, a passionate advocate for women's health and reproductive rights, retires as the president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, after more than a decade of active leadership; and

WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood, a nonprofit organization founded in 1916, offers health services, education, and abortion care to millions of patients; Cecile Richard was named president of the organization in 2006 and has helped membership more than triple, surpassing 10 million members; and

WHEREAS, Cecile Richards has also served as president of the Planned Parenthood Action Fund and played a critical role in shaping health care coverage for women under the Affordable Care Act; during her tenure, she successfully preserved access to preventative care through federal programs and maintained grant funding for breast cancer screenings through Susan G. Komen for the Cure; and

WHEREAS, under Cecile Richards' leadership, Planned Parenthood renewed its focus on supporting women in marginalized communities and underserved rural areas; the organization serves clients though more than 600 affiliate health centers throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Cecile Richards cultivated a strong interest in civic life from a young age as the daughter of a civil rights attorney and a former governor of Texas; before joining Planned Parenthood, she earned a bachelor's degree from Brown University and served as deputy chief of staff to Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and as founding president of America Votes, a coalition of grassroots voter registration organizations; and

WHEREAS, after her retirement from Planned Parenthood, Cecile Richards plans to seek new opportunities to advocate for women's rights; she leaves a legacy of strength and excellence to her successor as president; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Cecile Richards hereby be commended on the occasion of her retirement as president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Cecile Richards as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for her exceptional leadership of Planned Parenthood and commitment to advancing women's rights throughout the Commonwealth and the United States.

INTRODUCED

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