

2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

24200116D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 669

Offered May 13, 2024

Prefiled May 13, 2024

4 Commending the Historical Truxton Civic League.

5 Patrons—Scott, D. and Hayes

6 WHEREAS, the Historical Truxton Civic League provides exceptional service to the residents of the
7 105-year-old Truxton community, which is located in Portsmouth; and

8 WHEREAS, built in 1919, Truxton was the first planned community for African Americans built in
9 the United States; it was designated as U.S. Housing Project #150C and named after Thomas Truxton, a
10 commander in the Continental Navy and privateer during the Revolutionary War; and

11 WHEREAS, the original Truxton plan consisted of five-room houses, organized in 203 detached
12 dwellings and 50 semi-detached units, to accommodate 1,265 people or 253 families; it also included
13 plans for a school, church, community center, movie theater, small railroad station, and 35 shops; and

14 WHEREAS, noted for its self-reliance and self-containment, the flourishing Town of Truxton was
15 annexed by the City of Portsmouth in 1923; and

16 WHEREAS, the Historical Truxton Civic League was founded in June 2005 by Ronald Lucas,
17 Chester Benton, Robert "Bobby" Smith, and Beverly Gray with a plan of restoring the community and
18 instilling a sense of pride in its residents; and

19 WHEREAS, the mission of the Historical Truxton Civic League is to maintain an environment that is
20 safe, clean, and attractive, while upholding the pride and preserving the heritage of the community; and

21 WHEREAS, the first event sponsored by the Historical Truxton Civic League was Community Pride
22 Day 2005, which was attended by families, neighbors, and local officials, including members of the
23 Portsmouth Fire Department, Portsmouth Community Health Department, Portsmouth Sheriff's
24 Department, and Portsmouth City Council; and

25 WHEREAS, the Historical Truxton Civic League conducts numerous community outreach events to
26 enhance the local quality of life, including cleanup days and back-to-school events; and

27 WHEREAS, since 2007, the Historical Truxton Civic League has marked its progress toward its
28 goals at an annual reunion and awards banquet to announce the year's inductees to the Historical
29 Truxton Wall of Fame, which honors people who are Truxton volunteers, supporters, and benefactors;
30 and

31 WHEREAS, the Historical Truxton Civic League is supported by the City of Portsmouth, the Wilson
32 Ward Civic League, and the Old Truxton Community League, and current and former residents are
33 working hard to make their cherished community of Truxton a safe and vibrant community; and

34 WHEREAS, the Historical Truxton Civic League will commemorate the 105th anniversary of the
35 founding of the Truxton neighborhood at the Truxton Reunion and Awards Banquet on May 19, 2024,
36 at Maplewood Park; now, therefore, be it

37 RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Historical Truxton Civic League hereby be
38 commended for its legacy of service to the community and Portsmouth as a whole on the occasion of
39 the 105th anniversary of the founding of the neighborhood; and, be it

40 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution
41 for presentation to the Historical Truxton Civic League as an expression of the House of Delegates'
42 admiration for the organization's commitment to the Truxton community and the City of Portsmouth.

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