

## 2022 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 99

*Commending the Arthritis Foundation Virginia Chapter.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 8, 2022

WHEREAS, the Arthritis Foundation Virginia Chapter strives to raise awareness of the challenges of living with arthritis, supports research into treatments and a cure, and works to increase access to care for affected Virginians; and

WHEREAS, arthritis includes more than 100 rheumatic diseases and conditions that affect joints, tissues that surround joints, and other connective tissue; and

WHEREAS, arthritis is a chronic health problem that is the nation's leading cause of physical disability among Americans and is most common among people with multiple chronic conditions; and

WHEREAS, arthritis causes pain and loss of movement, can limit everyday activities such as walking and dressing, and can even lead to death; and

WHEREAS, arthritis affects an estimated 54 million American adults living with some form of doctor-diagnosed arthritis, representing 24.1 percent of adults in the United States; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 300,000 children under 18 years of age have a form of arthritis or rheumatic condition, representing approximately 1 in every 250 children in the United States; and

WHEREAS, arthritis costs the United States economy more than \$304 billion each year, including \$140 billion in direct medical care costs and \$164 billion in lost wages; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 1.5 million people living with arthritis in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in Virginia, 44 percent of adults with cardiovascular disease have arthritis, 35.6 percent of adults with diabetes have arthritis, and 30.8 percent of adults who are obese have arthritis; and

WHEREAS, among working age adults with arthritis in Virginia, 38.7 percent have some work limitations due to their arthritis; and

WHEREAS, one out of every three veterans in United States or approximately 17.3 percent of people in Virginia are living with arthritis, and it is the top cause of disability among veterans; and

WHEREAS, Arthritis Foundation Virginia Chapter supports better prevention strategies, interventions, and treatments that are crucial to reducing the number of individuals suffering from arthritis; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Arthritis Foundation Virginia Chapter hereby be commended for its work to support education and research into arthritis and increase access to care for Virginians living with arthritis; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Arthritis Foundation Virginia Chapter as an expression of the House of Delegates' appreciation for the foundation's vital mission.

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