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Dear Guests,

Welcome to the Virginia Beach International Student Outreach Program's (VBISOP) J DAY celebration, a part of the nationwide event to honor the J-1 Summer Work Travel program and other J-1 exchange programs. I would like to extend a special welcome to the international students; I hope the experience has been as rewarding for you as it has been for our region.

Thanks to VBISOP's hard work and strong partnership with the U.S. State Department, international students are afforded the unique opportunity to live and work in our community. J-1 students participate in cultural and educational exchange programs, such as the Summer Work Travel program. This summer, VBISOP held six orientations for arriving international students throughout May and June – these orientations are instrumental in welcoming J-1 students to the United States, informing them of local transportation, library, and banking resources, and so much more.

My wife Teri joins me in welcoming all of you to today's event. We are grateful that so many of you have taken the opportunity to attend and share your support. Programs like the J-1 exchange truly make Virginia's Second Congressional District, and our nation, a better place.

Mindful that I work for you, I remain

Yours in Freedom,


Scott Rigell
Member of Congress

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