## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 62**

Requesting the Virginia Information Providers Network Authority to create and maintain a Web portal for educational information and services.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 6, 2000 Agreed to by the Senate, March 2, 2000

WHEREAS, the Internet is a valuable resource in obtaining information regarding education, educational technology, and other education-related materials; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth already provides access to comprehensive Internet Web sites on education within the Web site maintained by the Virginia Information Providers Network (VIPNet), within the Web site maintained by the Virginia Department of Education (Department), and within the Web site known as the "Commonwealth of Knowledge"; and

WHEREAS, while these Web sites offer valuable educational information such as lesson plans, standards of learning, and other information for teachers, parents, and students, information regarding the purchase of educational technology equipment and hardware is not always readily available; and

WHEREAS, on many occasions a teacher, a parent, or a student may have to search all three Web sites in order to find the information necessary for carrying out his educational pursuits; and

WHEREAS, on December 10, 1999, the Commonwealth merged its two major Internet gateways, maintained by the Department of Information Technology and VIPNet, into a single Web portal, thus providing Virginians with a convenient, user-friendly way to access all of the information and services that the government provides; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia Information Providers Network Authority be requested to create and maintain a Web portal for educational information and services, including information for the procurement of educational technology compiled from the Department of General Services' central electronic procurement Web site and other appropriate Web sites, as it has done for government information and services. Upon carrying out the provisions of this resolution, the Authority and VIPNet shall notify all division superintendents regarding educational information and services available through the Web portal; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Information Providers Network Authority and to the General Manager of VIPNet so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly in this matter.