SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 12

Commending the Norfolk State University welfare-to-work program.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 27, 2000 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 4, 2000

WHEREAS, one of the challenges facing those charged with reforming Virginia's welfare system has been to provide the training necessary for welfare recipients to move "from welfare to work"; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare (VIEW) has teamed up with state-funded institutions to provide child care training programs to current and former welfare recipients in Hampton Roads; and

WHEREAS, one such program, at Norfolk State University, has experienced notable success in training welfare recipients in child care skills, providing classroom instruction and hands-on training at various day care centers or local public schools; and

WHEREAS, in November of 1999, the Norfolk State University child care training program graduated 24 students who will continue their training at day care sites until they are certified by the state as day care specialists; and

WHEREAS, following state certification, graduates may open their own home-based day care facility or work with licensed child care facilities, in either case, becoming gainfully employed and advancing the success of the VIEW program; and

WHEREAS, in operation since October of 1977, the Norfolk State University has been instrumental in the success of welfare-to-work measures in Hampton Roads, has trained skilled and badly needed child care workers, and has enhanced the futures of its many successful graduates; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Norfolk State University child care training program for its ongoing efforts to promote welfare-to-work initiatives in Hampton Roads; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Norfolk State University child care training program as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for its excellent work.