

2001 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 761

Offered January 17, 2001

Designating the week of February 5-9, 2001, as Virginia School Counseling Week.

Patron—Dillard

Referred to Committee on Education

WHEREAS, the employment of guidance counselors in Virginia public middle and secondary schools is required by the Standards of Quality; and

WHEREAS, these guidance counselors provide invaluable assistance to students, and may deliver in the employment counseling and placement services required by § 22.1-209 and the Standards of Quality; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has previously recognized the value of strong developmental guidance and counseling in the elementary schools by creating grants in 1984 for model guidance and counseling projects; and

WHEREAS, the provision of school counseling is an essential component of initiatives such as those assisted by Virginia Gifted Education Pilot Program as well as dropout prevention initiatives; and

WHEREAS, whether employed by public or private schools, guidance counselors are committed to helping students explore their strengths and interests in discerning career and educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, school guidance counselors play a critical role in the educational process, assisting classroom teachers in assessing student abilities and in setting realistic academic performance goals; and

WHEREAS, guidance counselors may identify community resources that may assist students and families in making the school experience a rich and fulfilling one, and may aid students in dealing not only with academic and career concerns, but also in considering the value of remaining in school and pursuing further education or career goals; and

WHEREAS, these education professionals, whether employed in a public or private school setting, provide a critical service to the young people of the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the week of February 5-9, 2001 be designated Virginia School Counseling Week; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates shall transmit copies of this resolution to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, requesting that she further disseminate copies of this resolution to division superintendents and local school boards of the Commonwealth, and to the Virginia Council for Private Education for distribution to the governing boards of its member schools, so that they may be apprised of the sense of the Virginia General Assembly in this matter.

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