

## 2006 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 212

*Directing the Joint Rules Committee to develop plans for an event involving the members of the Virginia General Assembly on the opening day of the 2007 Session of the General Assembly to be held in the Historic Triangle in Hampton Roads.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 14, 2006

Agreed to by the Senate, March 7, 2006

WHEREAS, Virginia became the first permanent English-speaking colony in the New World with the founding of Jamestown in 1607; and

WHEREAS, the political genesis of our democratic form of government springs from the establishment of the House of Burgesses in Jamestown in 1619, the first legislative body in the New World; and

WHEREAS, the capital of the Colony of Virginia was moved from Jamestown to Williamsburg and the House of Burgesses first met there on April 21, 1704; and

WHEREAS, Virginia declared independence from England in 1776, the Commonwealth of Virginia was formed, and Williamsburg was last used as the capital on December 24, 1779, when the General Assembly adjourned to reconvene May 1, 1780, at the new capital in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Jamestown is certain to be the center of attention in 2007, as the nation celebrates the 400th anniversary of the first permanent English settlement in the New World; and

WHEREAS, the 2006 Inaugural Ceremonies for Governor Kaine, Lieutenant Governor Bolling, and Attorney General McDonnell were held at the reconstructed Capitol in Williamsburg; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia are guests of Williamsburg every four years to commemorate the Colonial Capitol, and a special commemorative session of the House of Delegates and Senate is held in the Reconstructed Capitol in Williamsburg; and

WHEREAS, the State of the Commonwealth Address given by the Governor of Virginia is traditionally conducted during the Joint Assembly of the General Assembly, where the Speaker of the House of Delegates serves as President and the Clerk of the House of Delegates serves as the Clerk of the Joint Assembly assisted by the Clerk of the Senate of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, as Virginia and America prepare for the 400th anniversary of the birth of freedom in the New World, it is appropriate that the Commonwealth recognize and note the significance of the establishment of the first permanent English settlement in Jamestown and Virginia's role and contribution to the founding of the nation with an event befitting of this historic occasion; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Joint Rules Committee be directed to develop plans for an event involving the members of the Virginia General Assembly on the opening day of the 2007 Session of the General Assembly to be held in the Historic Triangle in Hampton Roads; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the General Assembly urge the citizens of the Commonwealth to recognize and become familiar with the storied history of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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