

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 69

Commending the Virginia Choral Society on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 19, 2006
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 3, 2006

WHEREAS, the Virginia Choral Society celebrates its 75th anniversary with its much anticipated and festive 2006 season; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Choral Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the promotion and presentation of fine choral music in Hampton Roads and the Tidewater area; and

WHEREAS, organized in 1931, the Virginia Choral Society is one of the oldest continuously performing choral organizations in Virginia; prior to 1983, the acclaimed group was known as the Peninsula Choral Society; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Choral Society is a community-based choral group of over 120 gifted and enthusiastic members that presents three major concert series annually to the delight of loyal and admiring fans; and

WHEREAS, each of the Virginia Choral Society's concert series focuses on a different choral style—the fall repertoire presents lighter music, including selections from Broadway shows, folk, Americana, and endearing tunes from the 1920s and '30s; the popular winter extravaganza offers Christmas carols and seasonal favorites; and the spring concert exhibits time-honored choral works by the master composers, such as Beethoven, Brahms, Haydn, and Mozart; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Virginia Choral Society is to foster a broader awareness of vocal music in the community, cooperate with other groups in support of the arts, and continue a long tradition of presenting only the finest compositions from the group's rich choral heritage; and

WHEREAS, there have been many distinguished conductors of the Virginia Choral Society in the past: Cary McMurran, Harold Chapman, Deborah Carr, Gary Lewis, Sidney Swiggett, George Bayley, Donald Golden, Thom Robertson, and Michael Cooley; the talented current artistic director is James Powers, with Diane Snider as the group's most notable accompanist; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Choral Society enhances the quality of life for the residents of Hampton Roads and the Tidewater area by providing memorable choral performances, and is a shining example for musical societies and community arts programs throughout the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate the Virginia Choral Society on the occasion of its 75th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Choral Society as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for its commitment to choral music and the performing arts.

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