

2006 SESSION

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 29

Offered March 8, 2006

Commending Mark Musick.

Patron—Chichester

WHEREAS, Mark Musick, who retired on August 1, 2005, is recognized for his exemplary leadership and longtime service as the president of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), America's first interstate compact for education; and

WHEREAS, the SREB is comprised of the governors of each of the 16 member states, as well as legislators, educators, and other citizen leaders; and

WHEREAS, Mark Musick was born on May 23, 1947, in Gate City and earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; an honorary doctor of education degree from Piedmont College in Demorest, Georgia; an honorary doctor of laws degree from Mercer University in Macon, Georgia; and an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, committed to excellence in education in all of the Southern schools and colleges, Mark Musick has been involved in the work of the SREB for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS, prior to being selected president in 1989, Mark Musick served as the vice president of the board of SREB and worked primarily with Southern state legislators, governors, higher education boards, and their staffs; he came to the SREB from Virginia government, where he served in the governor's office, as well as on the State Board for Community Colleges and the State Council for Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, Mark Musick was invaluable in establishing and implementing the goals put forth in SREB's 1981 report, *The Need for Quality*, as well as its 1988 report, *Goals for Education: Challenge 2000*, both of which were influential in establishing educational goals for the South and the nation; and

WHEREAS, a visionary leader with vast experience and knowledge, Mark Musick directed a project affiliated with the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) that, for the first time, produced student achievement information that could be legitimately compared from one state to another; this project served as a model for the nationwide program that now involves all 50 states and is a key education accountability provision of the No Child Left Behind Act; and

WHEREAS, Mark Musick has directed numerous technology initiatives that have earned national recognition for the SREB, including the Educational Technology Cooperative, the Electronic Campus, and the Distance Learning Policy Laboratory; and

WHEREAS, Mark Musick has been appointed by three United States Secretaries of Education to chair NAEP, which directs the program known as the Nation's Report Card, and he has served for 15 years as a member of the governing board; and

WHEREAS, Mark Musick is a charter member of the board of ACT, Inc., an independent, not-for-profit organization that provides more than 100 assessment, research, information, and program management services in the broad areas of education and workforce development, as well as administers more than 1.2 million collegiate admissions tests annually; and

WHEREAS, as president emeritus of the SREB, Mark Musick is an articulate spokesman for quality education and educational concerns; he and his wife Judy reside in Atlanta, Georgia, and spend time in their mountain retirement home in Suches, Georgia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Mark Musick be hereby commended for his profound wisdom and outstanding service to the Southern Regional Education Board and the citizens of the Commonwealth and the nation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Mark Musick as an expression of the Senate's gratitude for his uncommon commitment to quality higher education and best wishes for a joyful and fulfilling retirement.

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