

2007 SESSION

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076602444

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 773

Offered January 19, 2007

Recognizing "Hampton Roads: America's First Region" as the brand for Southeast Virginia.

Patrons—Oder and Suit

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, American, Virginia, and Hampton Roads' history began on April 26, 1607, when three ships from England's Virginia Company, the *Susan Constant*, *Godspeed* and *Discovery*, landed on the south shore of the Chesapeake Bay at Cape Henry in modern-day Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, the crew of those ships, seeking a brighter future in a new world, sailed along the rivers and bays of Southeastern Virginia for 18 days before establishing the first permanent, English-speaking settlement in America at Jamestown and, in so doing, defined the boundaries of present-day Hampton Roads; and

WHEREAS, *Hampton Roads* is a centuries-old name for the world's largest natural harbor where the James, Nansemond and Elizabeth Rivers pour into the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay; and

WHEREAS, Hampton Roads is the name adopted by the region encompassing the localities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Gloucester, Hampton, Isle of Wight, James City, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Smithfield, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, Southampton, Surry, Williamsburg and York; and

WHEREAS, the name Hampton Roads honors the rich history of the region and encourages regional identity and citizenship among 16 million residents; and

WHEREAS, the Hampton Roads region has adopted "Hampton Roads: America's First Region" as the brand for Southeast Virginia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly recognize "Hampton Roads: America's First Region" as the brand for Southeast Virginia and encourage state agencies to promote it in the future as they may find appropriate and useful; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Hampton Roads Partnership and the city councils and county boards of each locality in Hampton Roads as an expression of the General Assembly's support for this regional branding effort.

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