SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 516

Commending Gesher Jewish Day School on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 22, 2007 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 2007

WHEREAS, in 2007, Gesher Jewish Day School celebrates 25 years of dedication to academic excellence and creative expression in general and Judaic studies; and

WHEREAS, Gesher Jewish Day School, located in Fairfax, was founded in 1982 by a group of pioneering parents alongside such visionaries as Rabbi Sheldon Elster and his wife, Shulamith, and Rabbi Arnold Fink; and

WHEREAS, Gesher's first kindergarten was established at a local synagogue with the help of an enthusiastic teacher, Susan Koss, and an additional grade was added each year until 1988, creating a K-6 school; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Gesher added a 7th grade class and the following year an 8th grade was incorporated to create a middle school; and

WHEREAS, housed on two campuses since 1998, Gesher is poised to move into a brand new facility in 2007, one that will include state-of-the-art classrooms, common areas for special studies, a gymnasium and library, and a beautiful Beit Midrash for study and worship, all on a lovely wooded, suburban campus; and

WHEREAS, guided by its vision of "Building a Bridge of Knowledge, Character, and Wisdom to the Future," Gesher Jewish Day School prepares its students to become knowledgeable and committed Jews, informed and responsible American citizens, and morally sensitive human beings; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend and congratulate Gesher Jewish Day School on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Gesher Jewish Day School as an expression of the General Assembly's best wishes for future success.