

## 2007 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 543

Offered February 19, 2007

*Commending the Northern Virginia Area Health Education Center.*

Patrons—Whipple, Colgan, Cuccinelli, Devolites Davis, Herring, Howell, O'Brien, Potts, Puller, Saslaw and Ticer

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Area Health Education Center is recognized for its 10 years of outstanding service to citizens in need in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Area Health Education Center (NVAHEC) opened its doors in late 1996 in order to increase access to primary healthcare for an underserved population and to provide other health and human services to the most vulnerable people in the community; and

WHEREAS, among a growing population of citizens with no access to healthcare, the NVAHEC service area includes over one in three people who do not speak English very well or at all; and

WHEREAS, NVAHEC has developed outstanding programs for persons in need in the community, including healthcare interpreter services, written language translation services, a medical interpreter training program, and a healthcare provider cultural competence training program; and

WHEREAS, NVAHEC has trained more than 1,100 specialty healthcare interpreters, who have provided more than 26,000 hours of interpreter services to clinics, hospitals, and numerous healthcare providers, meeting the language needs of well over 35,000 patients; and

WHEREAS, NVAHEC has trained more than 705 healthcare providers in the basics of providing culturally competent patient care; and

WHEREAS, NVAHEC has provided more than 5,000 hours of technical assistance to local health departments, free clinics, hospitals, and the Virginia Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, NVAHEC raises \$7 for every \$1 in state funding, over and above the federal Area Health Education Center (AHEC) grant, maximizing the value of the limited state funding it receives and affording the Commonwealth invaluable services for its investment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate the Northern Virginia Area Health Education Center for its 10 years of outstanding service to the Northern Virginia community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dallice M. Joyner, Executive Director of NVAHEC, as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude to the organization for its commitment to provide health and human services to the citizens of the Commonwealth and best wishes for continued success in the future.

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