

2008 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 551

Offered March 3, 2008

Commending Richard H. Graham.

Patrons—Landes, Cline and Saxman; Senator: Hanger

WHEREAS, Richard H. Graham, the outstanding president and chief executive officer of Augusta Health Care, Inc., retired in 2007 after 17 years of outstanding leadership and service to the citizens of the Shenandoah Valley and the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Richard Graham joined Augusta Health Care, Inc., (AHC) in 1990 as vice president of finance and became president and chief executive officer in 1991; and

WHEREAS, Richard Graham was instrumental in the creation of AHC from the merger of King's Daughters' Hospital and Waynesboro Community Hospital and in the planning and construction of Augusta Medical Center (AMC); and

WHEREAS, Richard Graham was a valuable asset in the creation of the AHC Community Health Foundation; and he has greatly supported successful partnerships between AHC and area community health care organizations through his work with the Shenandoah Shared Hospital Services and VaLiance Health; and

WHEREAS, under Richard Graham's exemplary leadership, AMC has expanded to include the Lifetime Fitness Center, a child care center, and Shenandoah House; and

WHEREAS, Richard Graham guided AMC in the addition of many vital services, including a hospitalist program, a regional cancer center, an outpatient dialysis clinic, a hospice care center, a nascent interventional cardiology program, eight physician-owned practices, and health transportation services; and

WHEREAS, through Richard Graham's visionary leadership, AMC has received numerous awards and accolades, including national recognition as a Solucient 100 Top Hospital in 1997 and 1998, regional recognition as one of the top three medium-size hospitals in the South Atlantic Region in 1999, a Solucient 100 Top Hospital for Orthopedic and Intensive Care unit services in 2000, *U. S. News'* Best Hospitals in 2000 and 2001, and HealthGrades's Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence in 2006 and 2007; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Richard H. Graham on his 17 years of visionary leadership of Augusta Health Care, Inc., and his commitment to quality medical care for the citizens of the Shenandoah Valley; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Richard H. Graham as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for his many accomplishments and best wishes for a happy and rewarding retirement.

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