## **SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 393**

Commending the Children's Hospital at Johnson City Medical Center.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 29, 2009 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 6, 2009

WHEREAS, the Children's Hospital at Johnson City Medical Center worked with East Tennessee State University's James H. Quillen College of Medicine in 1992 to develop the first hospital for children in the region, serving Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, and North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Children's Hospital at Johnson City Medical Center has continued to offer the region premier children's health services for the last 16 years; and

WHEREAS, the Children's Hospital at Johnson City Medical Center offers approximately 20 pediatric specialities ranging from pediatric surgery to neonatology; and

WHEREAS, Niswonger Children's Hospital will be the new home for the Children's Hospital at Johnson City Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, a majority of the \$36 million in funding to build Niswonger Children's Hospital came from the community itself to continue to improve the services offered to the children of the region; and

WHEREAS, Scott and Nikki Niswonger of Greeneville, Tennessee, donated \$10 million toward the construction of the new hospital; and

WHEREAS, Niswonger Children's Hospital will serve children from birth until 18 years of age in a four-state region stretching from Tennessee and North Carolina to Virginia and Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Niswonger Children's Hospital will be guided by a patient-centered care philosophy where the family is in control of care; and

WHEREAS, Niswonger Children's Hospital is designed to be a place that children will feel comfortable coming to for medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, Niswonger Children's Hospital is the only such facility of its kind in the region offering unusual care in an unusual child-friendly setting; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate the Children's Hospital at Johnson City Medical Center on the development of its new facility, the Niswonger Children's Hospital, and its numerous other contributions to children's health care; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Children's Hospital at Johnson City Medical Center as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude to the hospital and its supporters for their commitment to the medical treatment and the well-being of the children of the Commonwealth and the region.