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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 496

Offered February 23, 2009

Commending the United Way of Greater Williamsburg.

Patron—Norment

WHEREAS, the United Way of Greater Williamsburg is commended for 60 years of service to the greater Williamsburg area in 2009; and

WHEREAS, the United Way of Greater Williamsburg began in 1949 and was known as the "Community Chest"; and

WHEREAS, the 1949 campaign goal was \$6,825 and the campaign lasted one week; in 1950, the campaign benefited eight agencies with a goal of \$7,099.62; and

WHEREAS, today, the United Way of Greater Williamsburg partners with 22 agencies that support 39 programs; the 2008 campaign goal was \$1,850,000; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 United Way of Greater Williamsburg message to the community is to "Live United," by asking that community members join hands, open their hearts, and think of "we before me"; and

WHEREAS, the United Way has always lived by the adage that by reaching out a hand to one, you can influence the condition of all; during its 60 years of service, the United Way of Greater Williamsburg has served hundred of thousands of individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the United Way of Greater Williamsburg has been the "gatekeeper" of programs and services for those in need since 1949 and has stood as a beacon of hope for countless citizens who have fallen on hard times; and

WHEREAS, the United Way of Greater Williamsburg provides a wealth of support under one roof, a network of human services partnerships, with a primary mission of helping to meet the changing needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, despite natural disasters, a fragile economy, and periods of rapid regional growth and fiscal unknowns, the United Way of Greater Williamsburg updated its benchmark standards and best practices to reflect the organization's strategic shift from its traditional role as a fundraiser to a new mission focused on identifying and addressing the long-term needs of the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, the United Way of Greater Williamsburg works with its partner agencies to build on five community areas: Health and Wellness, Self-Sufficiency, People in Crisis, Children and Youth, and Senior Independence; and

WHEREAS, the United Way of Greater Williamsburg has served its community by working with various organizations and is recognized as a champion of benefits and services in this the 60th year of service to the greater Williamsburg area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend the United Way of Greater Williamsburg on its 60 years of service to the community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the United Way of Greater Williamsburg as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and gratitude for its dedication and hard work on behalf of those in need.

INTRODUCED

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