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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 190

Offered February 18, 2010

*Commending the Central Virginia Community Health Center on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.*Patron—Ruff

WHEREAS, community health centers are private, nonprofit organizations that provide critically needed, high quality, comprehensive primary health care to all people, especially the medically underserved; and

WHEREAS, community health centers foster illness prevention and health promotion, play a significant role in the reduction of health disparities and infant mortality, and reduce preventable deaths and costly disabilities as well as integrate the delivery of primary care with outreach, patient education, language interpretation, and other supportive services; and

WHEREAS, community health centers maintain a high standard of accountability and demonstrate cost effectiveness and efficiency; and

WHEREAS, the need for affordable and accessible primary health care services, including medical, dental, and behavioral health care, continues to be a pressing need in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, a group of committed Buckingham County residents recognized the pressing need in the area for primary health care services, and they sought and obtained a grant to fund the first community health center in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, since opening in November 1970, Central Virginia Community Health Center has evolved into Central Virginia Health Services, Inc., which comprises 14 health center sites, covering 15 counties and three cities; and

WHEREAS, Central Virginia Community Health Center employs over 300 community members and sees 47,000 patients annually, and almost 36 percent of those patients are uninsured; and

WHEREAS, the success of Central Virginia Community Health Center and the exemplary efforts of its founders in Buckingham County have inspired communities around Virginia to create over 103 community health center sites over the last 40 years, serving more than 240,000 Virginians; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Central Virginia Community Health Center on its 40 years of outstanding service to the citizens of Central Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the board of directors of Central Virginia Health Services, Inc., on behalf of Central Virginia Community Health Center and its exemplary staff, as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for the organization's outstanding contributions to quality health care in the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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