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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 671

Offered January 12, 2011

Commending Shenandoah University on the occasion of its 50th anniversary in Winchester.

Patrons—Sherwood and Cosgrove

WHEREAS, Shenandoah University celebrated its 50th anniversary in the vibrant City of Winchester in 2010; and

WHEREAS, an already established institution of higher education, Shenandoah University (formerly the Shenandoah College and Conservatory of Music) relocated to Winchester in 1960; and

WHEREAS, the Shenandoah College and Conservatory of Music in Winchester began as two buildings on a hillside on the city's eastern end with a student enrollment of 200 and Dr. Forrest Racey as president; and

WHEREAS, over the next several years, the Shenandoah College and Conservatory of Music saw its enrollment and faculty nearly double while the addition of the Wilkins Student Center provided a place for students to gather and the Theatre and Performing Arts Department strengthened the school's commitment to the arts; and

WHEREAS, in 1974 the Shenandoah College and Conservatory of Music expanded its offerings to include a four-year baccalaureate degree and in 1980, began to offer graduate degrees in music education and business administration; and

WHEREAS, in 1982 Dr. James A. Davis, a former member of the House of Delegates, took the helm as the 15th president of the school, a position he held until 2008; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Davis' tenure, Shenandoah College and Conservatory of Music became Shenandoah University and offered its first doctoral degrees in pharmacy and musical arts in education; and

WHEREAS, in 1996 Shenandoah University received a \$10 million gift from Bernie and Anne Marie Dunn to name the Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy; and

WHEREAS, during the 1990s, Shenandoah University built the Health Professions Building, Ohrstrom-Bryant Theatre, Ruebush Hall, and Glaize Studio, which provided much needed space for the University's expanding programs and growing student population; and

WHEREAS, in 2001 Shenandoah University dedicated its Northern Virginia Campus on Route 7 near Leesburg, where programs including business, nursing, technology, and teacher education are offered to give students an outstanding education in preparation for their careers; and

WHEREAS, following Dr. Davis' retirement, Dr. Tracy Fitzsimmons, senior vice president and vice president for academic affairs, became the 16th president of Shenandoah University; and

WHEREAS, Shenandoah University embarked on its largest fundraising campaign in the history of the school and exceeded its \$65 million goal in July of 2009, which will allow the University to continue with its ambitious efforts to provide its students, alumni, and faculty with the best available resources; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 Shenandoah University celebrated five decades of partnership with the City of Winchester and announced the results of a study examining the economic impact of the University on the Winchester-Frederick County region; and

WHEREAS, the study estimated the overall economic impact of Shenandoah University at almost \$90 million annually with 1,342 jobs supported by the institution; and

WHEREAS, Shenandoah University has a proud heritage of providing an excellent education for its students, exemplary support for its staff and faculty, and outstanding commitment and contributions to the community where it is located; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Shenandoah University on the occasion of its 50th anniversary in Winchester; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dr. Tracy Fitzsimmons, President of Shenandoah University, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the institution's commitment to a quality higher education for its students and partnership with the Winchester-Frederick County community.

INTRODUCED

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