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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 774

Offered January 31, 2011

Commending the Washington County Technology Student Association chapters.

Patrons—Johnson, Carrico, Kilgore and Phillips; Senators: Wampler and Puckett

WHEREAS, the Washington County Technology Student Association chapters are part of the international Technology Student Association, a co-curricular technology education organization that boasts 150,000 members with 10,000 members in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Technology Student Association (TSA) is to prepare students for the challenges of a dynamic world by promoting technological literacy, leadership, and problem solving, resulting in personal growth and opportunities in technology, innovation, design, and engineering, and to advance science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) in the education of the future workforce; and

WHEREAS, the TSA in Washington County began in 2007 with one student in one chapter at E.B. Stanley Middle School and has grown to over 100 students in two chapters at E.B. Stanley Middle School and Abingdon High School, furthering and promoting STEM education in a county unable to afford a formal secondary level technology curriculum; and

WHEREAS, Washington County TSA chapters won national championships in the competitions of Inventions and Innovations, Video Production, and Robotics and have been national Top 10 finalists in Cyberspace Pursuit Web Design, Music Production, Challenging Technology Debate, Parliamentary Procedure, Graphic Design, Career Comparison, and Electronic Game Design, and have had a member elected to the National Technical Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, Washington County TSA chapters have been state champions in Career Comparisons, Prepared Presentation, Film, Video Challenge, Environmental Challenge, Electronic Game Design, Cyberspace Pursuit Web Design, Digital Photography, Medical Technology, Essays in Technology, Technical Writing, and Structural Engineering Challenge; and

WHEREAS, Washington County TSA chapters have had students selected each year as both Virginia TSA High School Member of the Year and Virginia TSA Middle School Member of the Year, selected from over 1,000 conference participants, including over 60 Virginia schools, based on academic achievement, leadership, community service, and awards at state and national competitions; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County TSA piloted the first ever Virginia TSA Student semester exchange with the Ostwald TSA chapter from Leipzig, Germany; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County TSA chapters have participated as an American Cancer Society Relay for Life team raising over \$2,000 for this cause, showcasing student-developed technologic capability, and becoming one of only seven chapters recognized nationally as a Diamond Spirit of Service Award winner; and

WHEREAS, Washington County TSA chapter members serve as the current Virginia TSA state president and the current Virginia TSA state secretary; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County TSA strengthens and enhances opportunities for Washington County students to develop globally competitive technical and business skills and enhances students' ability to prosper and succeed as entrepreneurs and employees in meeting future economic growth and workforce needs in their own regions, in the Commonwealth, and beyond; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Washington County Technology Student Association chapters for their vision and perseverance in the formation and expansion of their chapters for the advancement of STEM education and workforce preparedness; their successful and valuable community service; their fostering of international relations; their statewide leadership of Virginia TSA; and their unprecedented three national TSA championships in only three years; the achievements of these students bode well for the future of technology-based growth in Southwest Virginia and the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Washington County School Board and Superintendent as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and appreciation for the Washington County Technology Student Association's chapters' commitment to outstanding STEM education.

INTRODUCED

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