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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 763

Offered January 19, 2013

Commending the Town of Gordonsville.

Patrons—Scott, E.T.; Senator: Reeves

WHEREAS, throughout 2013, the Town of Gordonsville will celebrate the 200th anniversary of its establishment on February 2, 1813; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gordonsville traces its deepest roots to 1787, when Nathaniel Gordon opened a tavern to serve those traveling by stagecoach between Richmond and Fredericksburg; and

WHEREAS, Gordon's Tavern became a well-known meeting place for both locals and travelers, even earning an endorsement from Thomas Jefferson in 1802; George Washington, James Monroe, and Henry Clay were also known to have passed through the town; and

WHEREAS, later growing into a major trading center, Gordon's Tavern and its surrounding dependencies became known as Gordonsville in 1813, with Nathaniel Gordon becoming the town's first postmaster; and

WHEREAS, sitting at a unique intersection of history, the Town of Gordonsville is centrally located between Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello, and James Madison's home, Montpelier; and

WHEREAS, in 1824 the Town of Gordonsville hosted another important historical figure when Major General the Marquis de Lafayette was given a reception at Gordon's Tavern; and

WHEREAS, by the time of the American Civil War, the Town of Gordonsville was a major railroad hub and was considered to be of vital strategic importance; despite several attempted attacks, the Town of Gordonsville was successfully defended throughout the war; and

WHEREAS, today, the Town of Gordonsville is known for its quaint shops and galleries, outstanding cuisine, proximity to celebrated vineyards, access to the beautiful Shenandoah National Park, and an American Civil War museum inside the Exchange Hotel; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gordonsville will commemorate its 200th anniversary with events throughout the year, starting with the Happy Birthday Gordonsville! Bicentennial Kick-off Reception in February and the Fried Chicken Festival in May; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Town of Gordonsville on the occasion of its 200th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Town of Gordonsville as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the town's timeless charms and storied history.

INTRODUCED

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