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## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5237**

Offered September 17, 2014

Commending the Free Medical Clinic of Northern Shenandoah Valley, Inc.

Patrons-LaRock, Minchew, Berg and Gilbert

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WHEREAS, for nearly 30 years, the Free Medical Clinic of Northern Shenandoah Valley, Inc., has served and supported uninsured and underserved residents of the City of Winchester and the Counties of Clarke and Frederick; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1986 as the result of a task force of the Winchester-Frederick Community Services Council, the Free Medical Clinic of Northern Shenandoah Valley filled a vital need to care for low-income individuals and families and working or retired persons with no health insurance; and

WHEREAS, the Free Medical Clinic of Northern Shenandoah Valley grew rapidly over the years and now provides on-site medical care and testing, facilitates visits to more than 60 specialists, offers health education, and distributes millions of dollars' worth of medication; in 2013, the clinic provided services to 1,122 patients during 13,000 visits; and

WHEREAS, the Free Medical Clinic of Northern Shenandoah Valley originally operated from the basement of First Presbyterian Church in Winchester; the clinic later moved to the former Friendship Fire Hall building to better serve the growing community; and

WHEREAS, the Free Medical Clinic of Northern Shenandoah Valley employs 11 full-time and seven part-time employees and has received assistance from hundreds of volunteer physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, assistants, and support staff; the clinic also serves as a training site for students through its partnership with Shenandoah University; and

WHEREAS, the Free Medical Clinic of Northern Shenandoah Valley has succeeded in its benevolent mission thanks to the hard work and dedication of its volunteers and many generous donations from local businesses, organizations, and individuals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Free Medical Clinic of Northern Shenandoah Valley, Inc., for its exceptional service to residents of the City of Winchester and the Counties of Clarke and Frederick; and, be it

RESOLVED FÜRTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Free Medical Clinic of Northern Shenandoah Valley, Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the clinic's work to enhance the quality of life of community members by giving the gift of good health.