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Offered September 18, 2014

Commending Virginia Union University.

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Patrons—McEachin, Alexander, Barker, Colgan, Deeds, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Howell, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Miller, Petersen, Puller, Saslaw and Wexton; Delegates: BaCote, Bulova, Carr, Cole, Dance, Davis, Filler-Corn, Futrell, Herring, Hester, Hope, James, Keam, Kory, Krupicka, Landes, LaRock, McClellan, McQuinn, Minchew, Morrissey, Plum, Rasoul, Simon, Spruill, Sullivan, Torian, Tyler and Ware

WHEREAS, during the 2014-2015 academic year, Virginia Union University, a historically black university in the City of Richmond, celebrates 150 years of providing educational opportunities to young men and women from throughout the Commonwealth and the United States; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Union University was founded in 1865 by the American Baptist Home Mission Society and held many of its first classes in Lumpkin's Jail, a former slave trading complex in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Union University is a union of four schools, including Wayland Seminary, Richmond Theological Seminary, Hartshorn Memorial College, and Storer College; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Union University's original mission of educating freed slaves following the Civil War has expanded to developing scholars, leaders, and lifelong learners who are prepared for responsible citizenship in a global society; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Union University's tens of thousands of alumni have made significant contributions in the areas of arts, sciences, business, theology, medicine, education, and politics and become valued members of and effective leaders in their communities; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, Virginia Union University has consistently created new jobs and advanced economic development in the City of Richmond, the Commonwealth, and the United States; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Union University is one of the oldest historically black colleges in the South; it has provided a bridge to intellectual freedom and equality for countless students of all races and nationalities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Virginia Union University on the occasion of its 150th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dr. Claude G. Perkins, president of Virginia Union University, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the university's invaluable contributions to the City of Richmond, the Commonwealth, and the United States.