HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 780

Commending the Virginia Institute of Marine Science/School of Marine Science of The College of William & Mary.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 13, 2015 Agreed to by the Senate, February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, a dedicated center for marine research and education in the Commonwealth was first envisioned by Donald W. Davis, a former professor and department chair of The College of William & Mary; and

WHEREAS, the predecessor of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science/School of Marine Science of The College of William & Mary, known as the Virginia Fisheries Laboratory, began operation in 1940; and

WHEREAS, the laboratory's work assured the future of Virginia's fishery industries by improving the general knowledge of fisheries' resources, so they might be properly conserved and managed, and by meeting the need for training in practical marine biology; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science/School of Marine Science is now a university research and teaching center with a strong element of public service and ranks as the leading marine center in the nation that focuses on estuarine and coastal environments; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science/School of Marine Science continues to serve the Commonwealth and the nation by advancing the frontiers of marine science and sharing the knowledge gained through research with the users and stewards of the environment and future scientists; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Virginia Institute of Marine Science/School of Marine Science of The College of William & Mary on the occasion of its 75th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Institute of Marine Science/School of Marine Science of The College of William & Mary as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the institute's dedicated service to its students and numerous contributions to the Commonwealth.