

2017 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 411

Offered February 15, 2017

Commending First Presbyterian Preschool.

Patron—Loupassi

WHEREAS, First Presbyterian Preschool, an exceptional church-affiliated preschool, is celebrating 60 years of providing a strong, solid start to early childhood education in the Richmond community; and

WHEREAS, First Presbyterian Preschool was established in 1956 under the name of First Presbyterian Kindergarten Day School, with four teachers serving 40 children between three and five years of age; and

WHEREAS, First Presbyterian Preschool has grown to serve 165 students ranging in age from eight months to five years old and now employs 28 people; and

WHEREAS, First Presbyterian Preschool has flourished under four directors—Betty Grinnan, Cynthia Hutchison, Keith Mitchell, and Rebecca A. Mauck—and members of the community and parents serve on the school's Weekday Ministry Board; and

WHEREAS, First Presbyterian Preschool is accredited by the National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Educational Programs; and

WHEREAS, First Presbyterian Preschool believes that the unique qualities found in each child bring an excitement to the program, which inspires teachers and keeps students engaged; children bring their own experiences and abilities to the school, which results in varying rates of development and gives teachers the opportunity to implement a developmentally appropriate curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the current 28 teachers and staff at First Presbyterian Preschool have an amazing combined total of more than 260 years of dedicated service to the school, including the longest-serving teacher in the history of the school, Janet Mauck, with 37 years of devoted service; and

WHEREAS, the engaged parents of First Presbyterian Preschool published a cookbook entitled *The Sun and the Rain and the Appleseed*, which won first place in a national cookbook competition; the \$15,000 proceeds from the sale of the cookbook and the \$5,000 award were contributed to the school's scholarship fund to provide families in need access to early childhood educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, First Presbyterian Preschool has served multiple generations of Richmond families, and graduates have continued their education and returned to serve the Richmond community as doctors, lawyers, teachers, and business leaders, among other professions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That First Presbyterian Preschool hereby be commended on the occasion of its 60th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Rebecca A. Mauck, director of First Presbyterian Preschool, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the school's mission to provide an environment where children have the confidence and security to explore, learn, and grow.

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