

## 2018 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 539

Offered March 5, 2018

*Commending the Northwestern Regional Juvenile Detention Center.*

Patron—LaRock

WHEREAS, for over 20 years, the Northwestern Regional Juvenile Detention Center in Winchester has provided a safe, secure, and rehabilitative environment for at-risk youth; and

WHEREAS, opened in 1997, the Northwestern Regional Juvenile Detention Center (NRJDC) is a 32-bed secure detention center that serves the City of Winchester and the Counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah, and Warren; and

WHEREAS, while detained at the NRJDC, children and adolescents are enrolled in Fort Collier Academy, an on-campus school that includes six Frederick County special education school teachers as well as GED, music therapy, and physical education programs; and

WHEREAS, the NRJDC's education program is emphasized with all residents in an effort to encourage interest in school and keep those currently enrolled in school from falling behind while in detention; and

WHEREAS, along with serving as teaching assistants during the day shift, the detention specialists at the NRJDC facilitate evening group activities focused on issues such as self-esteem, anger management, values, and team building; and

WHEREAS, the NRJDC operates a Post Dispositional Program that strives to teach residents how to make positive changes in regard to their education, family, personal life, and community; participants in the program receive an individual service plan and have access to mental health counseling and substance abuse treatment; and

WHEREAS, each year, the staff at the NRJDC also run a summer program for residents that includes cultural diversity and health and fitness instruction as well as arts and crafts, games, reading assignments, and guest speakers; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, the dedicated staff of the NRJDC have worked constantly to improve the facility's programs and make a positive and lasting impact on the lives of local youth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Northwestern Regional Juvenile Detention Center on its service to the community on the occasion of its 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Northwestern Regional Juvenile Detention Center as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its tireless efforts to improve the lives of young people.

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