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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 637

Offered January 9, 2019

Prefiled January 7, 2019

Commending Elizabeth Crowther.

Patrons—Ransone; Senator: McDougle

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Crowther will retire as president of Rappahannock Community College on June 30, 2019, after 14 years of exceptional contributions to young men and women in the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Crowther grew up on her family's farm in Northumberland County and gained her appreciation for the importance of a good education from her father, who served on a local board affiliated with Rappahannock Community College in the 1980s; and

WHEREAS, after earning bachelor's and master's degrees from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Elizabeth Crowther worked at a financial services firm that provided educational opportunities for its employees through local community colleges; witnessing firsthand the difference these programs made in the lives of her coworkers, she was inspired to pursue a second career in higher education; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Crowther completed a doctoral program at The College of William & Mary, then accepted a research position with Rappahannock Community College; in 1993, she became the head of instruction at Lord Fairfax Community College and was subsequently hired by Blue Ridge Community College as vice president for academic and student affairs; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Elizabeth Crowther returned to the Northern Neck as the third president of Rappahannock Community College and has since helped the institution earn local, state, and national recognition as a model for other institutions of higher education in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure, Elizabeth Crowther increased Rappahannock Community College Educational Foundation's assets from \$1 million to \$11 million, oversaw renovations to both the Glens and Warsaw campuses, opened satellite campuses in Kilmarnock and New Kent, expanded opportunities for students through partnerships with local community organizations and businesses, and worked to ensure that faculty had access to world-class technology and instructional equipment that enhanced the learning process; and

WHEREAS, after her well-earned retirement, Elizabeth Crowther plans to spend more time with her beloved family and will continue to serve the community as a member of numerous professional boards and organizations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Elizabeth Crowther on the occasion of her retirement as president of Rappahannock Community College; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Elizabeth Crowther as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her commitment to excellence in higher education.

INTRODUCED

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