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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 367

Offered February 27, 2020

*Commending Richmond Prep.*

Patrons—Carr, Adams, D.M., Bagby, Bourne, McQuinn and Willett; Senators: Hashmi and McClellan

WHEREAS, Richmond Prep, a Christian academy in Richmond serving students from preschool through fifth grade, celebrated its 35th anniversary in 2018; and

WHEREAS, founded by Dr. Yvonne Jones Bibbs in 1983, what would later become known as Richmond Prep was opened as Sixth Baptist Christian School in the basement of Sixth Baptist Church in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, initially serving only five students through extracurricular programs, by 1993, the school had greatly expanded to include a summer day camp for primary grade students, a preschool serving more than 200 students each year, and two satellite campuses; and

WHEREAS, that same year, renowned Richmond educator Dr. Mary Gordon West joined the faculty as director of the preschool division; two years later, when the Sixth Baptist Christian School began offering elementary education, she became the school's first principal; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, Sixth Baptist Christian School consolidated its campuses, moved to a new location on West Main Street, and renamed itself Richmond Prep; now offering classes from preschool through ninth grade, the school would remain at this location until 2005, when it relocated to the historic Daniel Call House on West Grace Street; and

WHEREAS, upon taking up residence at the Daniel Call House, leadership of Richmond Prep passed from Yvonne Jones Bibbs and Mary Gordon West to Dr. Jonathan Clay Bibbs and Patricia Colander Grant, who served as the school's lead administrator and principal, respectively; and

WHEREAS, briefly establishing itself at the Benedictine College Prep High School building from 2012 to 2018, Richmond Prep found its home for the 2018-2019 school year at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, where it celebrated its 35th year providing the youth of Richmond with an excellent education and the opportunity to thrive; and

WHEREAS, informed by its Christian faith and an appreciation for the individual character of every child, Richmond Prep has fostered the success of its students for many years, both in and out of the classroom; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Richmond Prep, a Christian academy in Richmond that raises young men and women to be faithful, lifelong learners, on the occasion of its 35th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dr. Jonathan Clay Bibbs, lead administrator of Richmond Prep, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the school's achievements and best wishes for the future.

INTRODUCED

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