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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 189

Offered March 4, 2020

Commending Flora D. Crittenden Middle School.

Patrons-Price, Mullin, Simonds and Ward

WHEREAS, Flora D. Crittenden Middle School, an academic institution of Newport News Public Schools, celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the building of Flora D. Crittenden Middle School was initially constructed in 1949, serving as George Washington Carver High School until it became Carver Intermediate School in 1971; and

WHEREAS, from 1980 to 1990, the school was named in honor of former principal Homer L. Hines, after which it was temporarily closed for a major, multimillion-dollar renovation; and

WHEREAS, on September 24, 1995, the newly renovated school was officially dedicated in honor of Flora D. Crittenden, a longtime educator and guidance counselor with Newport News Public Schools who served her community admirably on the Newport News City Council and in the Virginia House of Delegates for many years; and

WHEREAS, today, Flora D. Crittenden Middle School serves as one of the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics magnet programs for Newport News Public Schools, offering innovative and engaging classes in earth science, animal science, forensics, computer science, graphic arts, digital photography, robotics, web design, and more; and

WHEREAS, with computer labs dedicated to art, computer programming, and robotics instruction, Flora D. Crittenden Middle School provides its students with interactive and thought-provoking learning environments and experiences that stimulate their creativity and foster an interest in science and technology; and

WHEREAS, for 25 years, Flora D. Crittenden Middle School has supported the success of its students, faculty, and staff both in and out of the classroom, upholding the values upon which the Commonwealth's tradition of academic excellence is founded; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Flora D. Crittenden Middle School of Newport News Public Schools hereby be commended on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Natia Smith, principal of Flora D. Crittenden Middle School, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the school's illustrious history and its many contributions to the Commonwealth.