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1   **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 675**
2   Offered February 1, 2021
3   *Commending the Virginia Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine.*
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Patrons—Hayes, Adams, D.M., Avoli, Ayala, Byron, Carr, Cole, J.G., Cole, M.L., Convirs-Fowler, Heretick, Hope, Hurst, Kory, Levine, McQuinn, Murphy, Rasoul, Reid, Scott, Sickles, Simonds, Subramanyam, Ware and Watts; Senators: Boysko, Howell and Spruill

5   _____

6   WHEREAS, the Virginia Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine has served agencies
7 throughout the Commonwealth for more than five years as an independent resource for expertise in
8 science, engineering, and medicine; through annual meetings and studies on scientific topics; and in an
9 advisory role to policymakers with state and local government; and
10   WHEREAS, the Virginia Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine (the Virginia Academy)
11 was formed in 2013 by members of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and
12 other key individuals in the Commonwealth, including United States Senator Mark R. Warner, to serve
13 as an independent resource of scientific expertise and a model for new state academies across the nation;
14 and
15   WHEREAS, the membership of the Virginia Academy is composed of some of the nation's most
16 accomplished and innovative leaders in the fields of science, engineering, and medicine who either live
17 or work in the Commonwealth; and
18   WHEREAS, the members of the Virginia Academy provide nonpartisan guidance to decision-makers
19 on the most difficult, challenging issues of the day; and
20   WHEREAS, the Virginia Academy offers a collective rigor and objectivity that no single institution
21 can achieve on its own and fosters new collaborations between businesses and institutions of higher
22 education with the primary goal to grow the Commonwealth's competitiveness for new business
23 investments and federal funding; and
24   WHEREAS, the Virginia Academy provides analytical, technical, and scientific support to inform
25 policy decisions critical to the future of the Commonwealth and is a source of independent, impartial
26 expertise on scientific and technological policy challenges facing Virginia; and
27   WHEREAS, the Virginia Academy works in conjunction with other state agencies and commissions,
28 including the Joint Commission on Technology and Science, the State Council of Higher Education for
29 Virginia, and the Center for Innovative Technology to develop policy decisions that are based on
30 scientific principles; and
31   WHEREAS, the Virginia Academy has advocated for investments by the Commonwealth in job
32 growth, research, and solutions to challenges in science, engineering, medicine, and technology and has
33 continued to support emerging leaders in science, engineering, and medicine in their election to
34 corresponding national academies; and
35   WHEREAS, the Virginia Academy holds well-attended annual summits on issues of concern to every
36 Virginian, including the future of transportation, preparedness for emerging diseases, and coastal
37 resilience, and has produced a highly regarded report for the General Assembly with a roadmap for
38 expanding the Commonwealth's aerospace industry; and
39   WHEREAS, on December 10, 2020, the Virginia Academy announced the induction of 10 new
40 members, representing additional key leaders in the scientific, engineering, and medical communities
41 across the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it
42   RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby
43 commend the Virginia Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine for its efforts to engage more of
44 the key members of the scientific, engineering, and medical communities in the Commonwealth; and, be
45 it
46   RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution
47 for presentation to the Virginia Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine as an expression of the
48 General Assembly's admiration for the organization's work to support the economic future of the
49 Commonwealth through greater understanding of science and technology.