

2021 SPECIAL SESSION II

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 826

Commending the Jefferson School Foundation.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, August 5, 2021

WHEREAS, the Jefferson School Foundation, a nonprofit organization that manages the Jefferson School City Center, strives to preserve the legacy of the original Jefferson School; and

WHEREAS, in 1894, land at the corner of Fourth and Commerce Streets was transferred to the City of Charlottesville for the construction of the Jefferson Graded/Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Graded/Elementary School opened in 1895 and served as the elementary school for African Americans in Charlottesville until 1959; and

WHEREAS, in 1924, parents and community leaders petitioned the City of Charlottesville to provide a high school for African American students; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson High opened in 1926, joining the Jefferson Graded/Elementary School as the cornerstone for African American citizens in Charlottesville and surrounding Albemarle County and providing a venue and focal point for their emergence as a dynamic and vital part of the community's social history during the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson School is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Jefferson School Foundation hereby be commended on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the opening of the Jefferson Graded/Elementary School in 2020; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Jefferson School Foundation as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's work to preserve the history of the Jefferson School and the Charlottesville community.

ENROLLED

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