HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 660

Encouraging the students and faculties of Virginia's public schools, colleges, and universities to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at meetings, assemblies, and other school events.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 7, 1995 Agreed to by the Senate, February 21, 1995

WHEREAS, the Pledge of Allegiance is generally held to have been written by Francis Bellamy of The Youth's Companion in 1892, was revised in 1924, and was officially adopted by the Congress of the United States in 1942; and

WHEREAS, the Pledge of Allegiance has long been an integral part of American education, recited in countless classrooms throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the Pledge is a simple reaffirmation of one's belief in and loyalty to the values and ideals on which the United States of America was founded; and

WHEREAS, the Pledge, and the basic values of liberty and justice that it embraces, should be an essential and ongoing part of the education of all of the Commonwealth's youth; and

WHEREAS, the reinforcement of these values and ideals, through recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, is an entirely appropriate and important part of the educational experience in Virginia's public schools, colleges, and universities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby encourage the administrations and faculties of Virginia's public schools and institutions of higher learning to make the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance an integral part of student assemblies, meetings, and other school-sponsored functions; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia for dissemination to local school boards and Virginia's institutions of higher education so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly.