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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 698

Offered February 3, 1995

Commending Dr. Melissa Warfield.

Patrons—Heilig, Copeland, Jones, J.C., Moss and Robinson; Senators: Miller, Y.B. and Walker

Consent to introduce

WHEREAS, Dr. Melissa Warfield, a pediatrician and an integral part of Norfolk's Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters since its founding, has announced her retirement; and

WHEREAS, a 1955 graduate of Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania, Dr. Warfield began her medical career as the first full-time physician at the York Street Clinic, operated by the Norfolk City Union of the King's Daughters and the precursor of the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters (CHKD); and

WHEREAS, when the clinic became a children's hospital in 1961, Dr. Warfield immediately set about gaining national accreditation for CHKD and opening a nationally recognized medical residency program; and

WHEREAS, those two goals were realized by the mid-1960s, and Dr. Warfield became the first director of the pediatric residency program at CHKD, a program that has educated hundred of physicians and has attained the national recognition that was Dr. Warfield's goal; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Warfield then developed, and directed for 16 years, the hospital's department of hematology/oncology, which treats children with such serious illnesses as cancer and sickle cell anemia; and

WHEREAS, about five years ago, Dr. Warfield moved from clinical practice into the field of bioethics, then in its infancy, and has led the efforts of both CHKD and Eastern Virginia Medical School to educate physicians in this extraordinarily difficult and sensitive field; and

WHEREAS, the first Virginia fellow at the Center for Biomedical Ethics at the University of Virginia, Dr. Warfield was instrumental in establishing the Bioethics Committee at CHKD; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Melissa Warfield has devoted her entire professional life to the treatment of sick children, to the education and training of pediatricians, and to the establishment, growth, and success of Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Dr. Melissa Warfield on a career of noble, selfless, and invaluable service to the Norfolk community and to the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the General Assembly join with the countless friends, colleagues, patients, and former patients of Dr. Melissa Warfield in saluting her extraordinary dedication to Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dr. Melissa Warfield as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude and best wishes for a long, well-earned, and fulfilling retirement.