

# 1995 SESSION

ENROLLED

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 357

*Recognizing the 20th anniversary of the Tuition Assistance Grant Program.*

Agreed to by the Senate, February 7, 1995  
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 22, 1995

WHEREAS, in November of 1974, Virginia's voters approved a constitutional amendment allowing the General Assembly to provide loans or grants to students attending nonprofit private colleges in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, effective January 1, 1975, the Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG) Program was established to partially offset the public subsidy that all Virginians who attend public institutions receive, regardless of need; and

WHEREAS, students who receive TAG awards attend a diverse group of private colleges located throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the first grants of \$400 were awarded to 3,186 students attending accredited, nonprofit, nonsectarian private colleges in the 1976-77 academic year; and

WHEREAS, since that time, over 200,000 TAG awards have been made and hundreds of thousands of students and parents have benefited from the program; and

WHEREAS, with 13,000 students currently receiving TAG awards, the TAG Program continues to save money for the Commonwealth, as the amount of the TAG award is substantially less than the per-student subsidy that would be paid by the Commonwealth were the student to attend a public college or university; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly recognize the 20th anniversary of the Tuition Assistance Grant Program; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia in honor of this milestone anniversary of a program that has benefited thousands of Virginians and has been instrumental in ensuring the health and diversity of higher education in the Commonwealth.

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