

1996 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 363

Commending the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority on the 20th anniversary of Metrorail service.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 8, 1996

Agreed to by the Senate, March 9, 1996

WHEREAS, the first segment of Metrorail service opened on March 29, 1976, in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, on July 17, 1971, ground was broken at Rosslyn for the first Metrorail station in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Metrorail service began in Virginia on July 1, 1977, with the opening of Blue Line service between National Airport and the Stadium-Armory station in the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 1979, the Orange Line opened between Rosslyn and Ballston in Arlington; and

WHEREAS, on April 30, 1983, the Yellow Line was opened between the Pentagon and the District of Columbia, to be followed later that year by the extension of the Yellow Line from the Pentagon through Alexandria to Huntington in Fairfax County; and

WHEREAS, 1986 saw the extension of the Orange Line from Ballston to Vienna, and in 1991 the extension of the Blue Line to Van Dorn Street in Alexandria and Fairfax County; and

WHEREAS, the Franconia-Springfield station will open in 1997, completing the Virginia portion of the Adopted Regional System with 29.5 miles and 20 stations; and

WHEREAS, over 525,000 trips per day are taken on the Metrorail system and over 70 percent of the operating costs are covered by fares, the highest cost recovery ratio in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Metrorail system in Virginia has spurred the construction of over 30 million square feet of office, retail, hotel and residential space, creating \$1.2 billion in additional revenue for the Commonwealth by the year 2010; and

WHEREAS, the architecture, safety, cleanliness and reliability of Metrorail is internationally recognized, to the extent that Metrorail is widely known as "America's Subway"; and

WHEREAS, March 29, 1996, marks the 20th anniversary of Metrorail service; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly congratulate the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority on the 20th anniversary of Metrorail service and on the significant transportation and economic benefits Metrorail has brought to the citizens of Virginia and the Washington metropolitan area.

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