

# 1996 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 370

Offered March 8, 1996

*Commending Gildersleeve Middle School of Newport News.*

Patrons—Diamonstein, Crittenden and Hamilton

Consent to introduce

WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Schools Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education as part of the Goals 2000 program to reform elementary and secondary education in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the program identifies and awards national recognition to both public and private schools that have attained a high level of student achievement and are unusually effective in educating their students; and

WHEREAS, elementary, middle, and high schools are eligible to participate, and each state's chief school officer nominates schools to the Department of Education for review by a panel of 100 school educators, government officials, college staff, and business and professional representatives; and

WHEREAS, in the last two years, 492 schools were nominated nationwide, with 266 recognized as Blue Ribbon Schools; and

WHEREAS, Blue Ribbon Schools are chosen on the basis of leadership, teaching environment, curriculum instruction, community and parental support, and organizational vitality; and

WHEREAS, according to U.S. Senator Charles S. Robb, the Blue Ribbon Schools have "been recognized for a total commitment to quality education" and, additionally, "are models for effective education in both the Commonwealth and across America"; and

WHEREAS, only seven schools in the Commonwealth were named Blue Ribbon Schools this year, and among them was Gildersleeve Middle School in Newport News; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That Gildersleeve Middle School be commended for being named a Blue Ribbon School; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Principal Donna Whitmore and the 30 faculty members who compiled data for the application as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for this outstanding achievement and for the sustained excellence of Gildersleeve Middle School of Newport News.

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