

1997 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 756

Offered February 18, 1997

Commending Donna and Jimmy Dean.

Patron—Hall

Consent to introduce

WHEREAS, Donna and Jimmy Dean have been prominent citizens of the Richmond area for several years; and

WHEREAS, residing in Henrico County, the Deans have established an innovative six-part program to enhance the educational experience of students at Varina High School in eastern Henrico; and

WHEREAS, the Deans' Scholars program rewards students' academic achievement, and especially academic improvement, with recognition, prizes, and savings bonds; and

WHEREAS, Deans' APPLE (Award for Personal Performance and Leadership in Education) is aimed at teachers, as many as five of whom are rewarded annually, with monetary awards and stipends for staff development, for excellence in education; and

WHEREAS, Deans' Community fosters communication among the schools that feed students to Varina High School, promotes community support, and is fully funded by Donna and Jimmy Dean; and

WHEREAS, Deans' PLUS (Plan to Lift and Unify Staff) uses social events, recognition of outstanding achievement, and faculty retreats to increase teacher morale and staff cohesiveness at Varina High School; and

WHEREAS, the Deans' Foundation enables teachers and students to participate in special programs, such as creative classroom activities, club or organization projects, training, or attendance at conferences and competitions, and is funded in the amount of \$15,000 annually; and

WHEREAS, Deans' Choice is designed to raise funds for specific school needs, such as new curtains for the auditorium, an activity bus or van, and air conditioning for the auditorium and gymnasium; and

WHEREAS, in addition to their creative and exceedingly generous activities on behalf of Varina High School, Donna and Jimmy Dean drew on their professional music backgrounds to write and sing a new state song, "Virginia," which was performed during the 1997 Session of the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, among the most prominent citizens of Henrico because of their fame as musicians, Donna and Jimmy Dean have proven themselves more than worthy of the respect they have gained through their generosity to their community and the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Donna and Jimmy Dean for their numerous, valuable, and ongoing contributions to Henrico County and the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Donna and Jimmy Dean in recognition of their exceptional public service activities.

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