GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA -- 1999 SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 521

Commending Bill and Kathy Magee.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 15, 1999 Agreed to by the Senate, January 21, 1999

WHEREAS, founded in Norfolk in 1982, Operation Smile has for 16 years dedicated itself to repairing the faces and lives of children all over the world; and

WHEREAS, since the beginning of Operation Smile, cofounders Bill and Kathy Magee have stressed the importance of educating health care professionals in America and in other countries so that children might someday be cared for without the assistance of Operation Smile; and

WHEREAS, this goal of self-sufficiency is advanced by the many educational programs developed and expanded by Bill and Kathy Magee and implemented by Operation Smile's dedicated corps of volunteers; and

WHEREAS, during each overseas mission, Operation Smile volunteers dedicate a portion of their time to training health care professionals in the host country, averaging nearly 6,000 man-hours of medical education during each mission; and

WHEREAS, during 1998 successful educational programs were carried out by Operation Smile volunteers in the Philippines, Romania, Panama, and Morocco; and

WHEREAS, Operation Smile helps the United States and foreign medical professionals through its Physicians' Training Program, which in 1998 drew 60 medical professionals from 18 countries to Norfolk for three weeks of training; and

WHEREAS, Operation Smile continues to expand its innovative training programs, including the use of advanced technology such as telemedicine, to enhance its educational programs worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Bill and Kathy Magee's Operation Smile has helped thousands of children around the world, and through its educational programs Operation Smile seeks to ensure that untold thousands more will receive the same expert medical care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Bill and Kathy Magee for their selfless, humanitarian efforts on behalf of children everywhere; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Bill and Kathy Magee as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the ongoing success of Operation Smile. HJ521ER