

1999 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 839

Offered February 5, 1999

Commending the Town of Marion on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

Patrons—Tate; Senator: Marye

WHEREAS, an important stop on the route west during the 18th century, the area now known as the Town of Marion was settled as early as 1747, when the Royal Oak survey was made; and

WHEREAS, named in honor of General Francis Marion — the famed Swamp Fox of the American Revolution — the Town of Marion was established as the county seat of Smyth County on May 15, 1832; and

WHEREAS, 17 years later, on March 3, 1849, the Town of Marion was incorporated by act of the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Marion was the home of two Lieutenant Governors of Virginia, Lewis Preston Collins II and B. F. Buchanan, and renowned American short story writer and publisher Sherwood Anderson; and

WHEREAS, serving as the gateway to Hungry Mother State Park, with its annual Arts and Crafts Festival; the Jefferson National Forest; the headquarters of the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area; and the Appalachian Trail, the Town of Marion is also the home of the historic Lincoln Theatre, one of the last three remaining Mayan revival theaters in America; and

WHEREAS, because of the invention of local businessman William "Bill" Jones, the Town of Marion is recognized as the birthplace of Mountain Dew; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Marion has served as the county seat and the hub of commerce for Smyth County since its establishment and has provided the extensive farming community of Smyth County with a focal point for its commerce and trade; and

WHEREAS, an important stop for the Tennessee-Virginia (now Norfolk Southern) Railroad for more than 130 years, the Town of Marion also served as a major shipping point for the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Marion has received national recognition for its unique "Hot" and "Cold" water storage tanks, prominently displayed along Interstate 81, which traverses the Town of Marion; and

WHEREAS, an official Virginia Main Street Community, the Town of Marion continues to serve as an important industrial, retail, and tourist center in Southwest Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Town of Marion are celebrating the community's sesquicentennial with numerous events, celebrations, and commemorations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Town of Marion on the occasion of its 150th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the citizens of the Town of Marion in honor of this milestone anniversary in the history of their fine community.

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