

1999 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 842

Offered February 6, 1999

Supporting the City of Salem's bid to continue to host the NCAA Division III football and basketball championships.

Patron—Griffith

Consent to introduce

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the City of Salem currently hosts the Division III football and basketball championships for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA); and

WHEREAS, the NCAA Division III football championship, the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl, annually pits the two survivors of a 16-team playoff, with the winner claiming the national title; and

WHEREAS, the NCAA Division III basketball championship begins with a field of 48 teams, with the "Final Four" advancing to Salem for the semifinals and finals; and

WHEREAS, with a unique combination of ideal geographical location, superb facilities, a highly trained and motivated staff, and a widespread and well-deserved reputation for hospitality, the City of Salem has been notably successful in hosting these national events; and

WHEREAS, Salem is centrally located for many NCAA Division III colleges and has the added benefit of the assistance of the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) and its six football-playing schools; and

WHEREAS, Salem boasts a modern, high-quality stadium with a seating capacity of nearly 8,000, free parking, and state-of-the-art press, broadcast, and television facilities; and

WHEREAS, a full-time staff to maintain the facilities and assist in the planning of meals, hospitality areas, and publicity augments the warm and gracious hospitality of the people of the Roanoke Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Roanoke Valley also offers a multitude of lodging choices, a large number of restaurants, and a variety of interesting, educational, and entertaining tourist attractions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Salem, which will host both championships through 2000, is currently preparing its bids to continue to host the NCAA Division III football and basketball championships for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby wholeheartedly endorse the bids of the City of Salem to continue to host the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl and the NCAA Division III basketball championship; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the City of Salem as an expression of the General Assembly's confidence in the ability of its citizens to continue to provide the NCAA with professionally organized and highly successful national championship events.

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