HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 435

Commending the Associated Marine Institutes of Virginia.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 28, 2002 Agreed to by the Senate, March 6, 2002

WHEREAS, the goal of the Associated Marine Institutes of Virginia———the Tidewater Environmental Program, the Norfolk Marine Institute, the Peninsula Marine Institute, and the Virginia Wilderness Institute——is to provide exceptional service for at-risk and delinquent youth and their families through a partnership with the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice; and

WHEREAS, by providing a balanced approach to meeting public safety needs and reducing crime, the Associated Marine Institutes create a safer Virginia where its citizens benefit from the reduced risk of crime; and

WHEREAS, preventing the younger juveniles from progressing further into the juvenile justice system requires special emphasis in the areas of prevention and intervention and the support of law enforcement, state agencies, businesses, and local community organizations; and

WHEREAS, education is the heart of each of the Associated Marine Institutes' programs, and completion of high school and continuing education are primary goals; and

WHEREAS, the students at each of the Associated Marine Institutes' facilities perform hundreds of hours of community service work, making their communities better places to live and work and learning the importance of giving back to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Associated Marine Institutes' programs' balanced approach of discipline, respect, modeling, and responsibility is based on more than 30 years of successful experience with youth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Associated Marine Institutes of Virginia for its outstanding work on behalf of the youth of Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Associated Marine Institutes of Virginia as an expression of the admiration and gratitude of the General Assembly.