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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 508

Offered February 23, 2009

*Commending George Mason University, Northern Virginia Community College, Loudoun County Public Schools, Loudoun County, the Town of Leesburg, and the business community in Loudoun County on undertaking and completing a joint feasibility study for the establishment of a permanent campus of George Mason University in Loudoun County.*

Patron—Herring

WHEREAS, George Mason University has long expressed interest in establishing a permanent campus of George Mason University in Loudoun County; and

WHEREAS, there may be several locations in Loudoun County, including the Town of Leesburg, that are suitable for such a full service facility, and options include partnering with Northern Virginia Community College; and

WHEREAS, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) ultimately serves as the coordinating agency for the public institutions of higher education in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, before seeking SCHEV approval, George Mason University, Northern Virginia Community College, Loudoun County Public Schools, Loudoun County, and the Town of Leesburg needed to know what options existed for locating a permanent campus of George Mason University in Loudoun County and so formed a joint study group; and

WHEREAS, by conducting its joint feasibility study, "Planning for Enhanced Public Higher Education in Loudoun County," the joint study group, with coordination by members, will now be able to solicit and evaluate proposals from interested parties to develop a permanent campus of George Mason University in Loudoun County based on the criteria established in the report, which will greatly assist in seeking approval from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia for such a campus; and

WHEREAS, this joint study represents a significant, coordinated effort to leverage both public- and private sector resources and assets to advance the establishment of a full service, four-year university campus in Loudoun County, which is among Virginia's fastest-growing jurisdictions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That George Mason University, Northern Virginia Community College, Loudoun County Public Schools, Loudoun County, the Town of Leesburg, and the business community in Loudoun County be commended for undertaking and completing their joint study that will ultimately help determine the location of a permanent campus of George Mason University in Loudoun County, thereby adding to the breadth and dimension of higher education in Northern Virginia and the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to George Mason University, Northern Virginia Community College, Loudoun County Public Schools, Loudoun County, the Town of Leesburg, and the business community in Loudoun County as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation of their dedication to quality education in the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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