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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 845

Offered February 9, 2011

Commending Augusta Health.

Patrons—Landes, Bell, Richard P. and Cline; Senator: Hanger

WHEREAS, Augusta Health, located in Fishersville, Virginia, currently serves as a health care provider for a region of approximately 200,000 people living in six counties spread across more than 2,000 square miles, which includes the Cities of Staunton and Waynesboro and Augusta County, as well as other cities and counties encompassed in the Shenandoah Valley; and

WHEREAS, Augusta Health's mission is to promote the health and well-being of the community through access to excellent care with a vision of being a vibrant, independent, community-based health care system that is the first choice for patients, physicians, and employees; and

WHEREAS, Augusta Health has 255 beds, primary care services, approximately 200 active physicians, more than 500 auxiliary personnel and volunteers, approximately 11,700 annual admissions accounting for more than 50,000 inpatient days, over 57,000 annual emergency room visits, and more than 500,000 annual outpatient and physician practice visits; and

WHEREAS, Augusta Health is the largest employer in the community with approximately 2,300 employees; and

WHEREAS, HealthGrades, the nation's leading health care ratings organization, awarded Augusta Health the Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence and the Patient Safety Excellence Award in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Augusta Health is the only hospital in Virginia, and one of only 74 of the 5,000 hospitals in America, to receive both awards in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Augusta Health has again received the Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence from HealthGrades for 2011; and

WHEREAS, in 2011 no other hospital in Virginia received more HealthGrades "Top Ten Hospital in State" ratings than Augusta Health; and

WHEREAS, Top Ten hospitals are rated by mortality and complication rates and are assessed for multiple procedures and diagnoses, and Augusta Health received eight Top Ten ratings in the following categories: Coronary Interventional Procedures, Treatment of Stroke, Orthopedic Surgery, Joint Replacement, General Surgery, Pulmonary Care, Prostatectomy, and Critical Care; and

WHEREAS, in addition to top rankings on health care quality and patient safety, Augusta Health has also been nationally recognized for excellence in community service, having been chosen as a finalist for the coveted 2011 Foster G. McGaw Prize for Excellence in Community Service in honor of its broad-based efforts to improve the lives of the most vulnerable members of its community; and

WHEREAS, the Foster G. McGaw Prize finalists are selected from among the approximately 5,000 hospitals in the country as having demonstrated exceptional commitment to community service through leadership, dedicated staff, and community collaboration designed to address important community health issues; and

WHEREAS, as a finalist for the Foster G. McGaw Prize, Augusta Health will receive \$10,000 to be used to support their community initiatives at a special awards ceremony of the American Hospital Association's annual meeting on April 12, 2011, with coverage in national publications; and

WHEREAS, the community initiatives for which Augusta Health was selected for recognition as a Foster G. McGaw Prize finalist include its Community Health Forum initiatives; its partnership with Augusta Regional Dental Clinic for a school-based dental program; Working on Wellness, an initiative addressing childhood obesity; Fit for Life, a fitness program for low-income populations; and Mentoring the Next Generation, a program that encourages students to enter the health care field; and

WHEREAS, the HealthGrades and Foster G. McGaw recognition are of great significance on a national level and each is among the most esteemed honors in health care; and

WHEREAS, Augusta Health is the only medium-sized, single-site community hospital, and one of only three medium-sized community hospitals in the nation to hold an A-1 Bond Rating by Moody's Investors Service, which is an indication of management strength, excellent governance, efficient operations, and enhanced focus on clinical capabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Moody's Investors Service A-1 Bond Rating indicates that Augusta Health has achieved excellence in patient care without compromising overall efficiency and focus; and

WHEREAS, the national recognition by HealthGrades, Foster G. McGaw, and Moody's Investors Service represents the success of Augusta Health in meeting its ongoing mission to promote the health and well-being of the community through access to excellent care; now, therefore, be it

INTRODUCED

HJ845

59 RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly
60 commend Augusta Health as the only community hospital in the entire Commonwealth to have earned
61 the high distinction of selection for both the 2010 HealthGrades Distinguished Hospital Award for
62 Clinical Excellence and the Patient Safety Excellence Award and Foster G. McGaw recognition for
63 community benefit, while also holding an A-1 Bond Rating by Moody's Investors Services; and, be it
64 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution
65 for presentation to Mary N. Mannix, the President and CEO of Augusta Health, as an expression of the
66 General Assembly's gratitude for its commitment to outstanding service to the citizens of the
67 Commonwealth and the nation.