

## 2012 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 80

*Commending Marion Ware.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 13, 2012  
Agreed to by the Senate, January 19, 2012

WHEREAS, a visionary educational leader, Marion Ware has made inestimable contributions to the lives of children in the Roanoke Valley; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Virginia State University, Marion Ware began her career in education at the Northwest Child Development Center, where she gained valuable experience working with children and developed a deeper understanding of their educational needs; and

WHEREAS, in 1998 Marion Ware opened her own learning center, The Village Learning Center, to specifically address the needs of African American children as they prepared for enrollment in kindergarten; and

WHEREAS, known for her loving manner and firm belief in her students' potentials, Marion Ware created a positive learning environment where children not only learned the basics but received instruction in running a business, visited city council meetings, and attended cultural events; and

WHEREAS, Marion Ware remained connected to her students even after they left The Village Learning Center and encouraged them to think green and entrepreneurially; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 Marion Ware organized Green Enterprises 2010, an innovative conference where youth had the opportunity to "create" their own green businesses and which featured business leaders as guest speakers; and

WHEREAS, the conference synergy resulted in the formation of the Village Cookie Co., a student-run business in which participants receive mentoring from notable business leaders; and

WHEREAS, Marion Ware has continued to unite green entrepreneurs and students so that students can gain exposure to potential career paths and receive practical knowledge from the business community; and

WHEREAS, Marion Ware has closed the doors of The Village Learning Center but is excited about pursuing new educational opportunities, including consulting with famed author Rebecca Skloot on an adaption of the book, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, for middle school students and working on an education reform program; and

WHEREAS, a remarkable woman, Marion Ware has worked diligently to help numerous children prepare for academic and life success; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Marion Ware for her many contributions to children's lives; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Marion Ware as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for her commitment to the young people of Roanoke and best wishes in her future endeavors.

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