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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 126

Offered January 20, 2012

Commending Dr. Linwood H. Rose.

Patrons—Hanger and Obenshain; Delegates: Bell, Richard P., Landes and Wilt

WHEREAS, Dr. Linwood H. Rose, retiring from the presidency of James Madison University on June 30, 2012, after serving in that capacity since 1998, is recognized for his outstanding leadership and commitment to higher education in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rose grew up in Staunton, graduated from Robert E. Lee High School, and earned a bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech, a master's degree from the University of Tennessee, and a doctorate from the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rose provided exemplary service to James Madison University in varied capacities within every division of the university from 1975 to 1998, and to the Commonwealth of Virginia as Deputy Secretary of Education in 1985; and

WHEREAS, as only the university's fifth president in 103 years, Dr. Rose demonstrated an unwavering focus on improving the collegiate experience of James Madison University students by fostering an environment that encouraged students to become "educated and enlightened citizens who lead productive and meaningful lives"; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rose's administration has been nationally recognized for its programs that emphasize student engagement, volunteerism, and service to the community through its "Be The Change" program; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rose presided over an unprecedented period in James Madison University's history that saw an increase not only in its enrollment but also in its academic reputation; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Rose's leadership, James Madison University's enrollment has grown by 37 percent to 19,700 students, admissions applications have increased to over 26,000 per year, 20 new academic programs have been implemented, a Phi Beta Kappa chapter has been authorized and established, and the university has been regularly recognized as a national leader in educational value among public comprehensive universities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rose has guided the expansion of the university's campus with the addition of 2.4 million square feet and the construction of 25 major buildings and facilities; and

WHEREAS, the operating budget of James Madison University has more than doubled during President Rose's term to \$428 million; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rose led the university's first capital campaign for private support, exceeding the campaign goal by 40 percent; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rose's commitment to student success and academic progress is best represented by the university's graduation rate, which is ranked among the top 10 public universities in the country; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rose has been an advocate for international education, as reflected by the fact that James Madison is currently ranked second in the nation for the number of its students who study abroad; and

WHEREAS, during Dr. Rose's presidency, JMU intercollegiate athletic teams won over 30 conference championships and won a national football championship in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rose has selflessly offered his talents in service to the nation, the Commonwealth, and the higher education profession in numerous capacities, including as a member of the National Infrastructure Advisory Council to the President of the United States; as a member and chair of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; as a member of the board and executive committee of the NCAA; as a member of the board of the Virginia Innovation and Entrepreneurship Investment Authority and the Virginia's Center for Innovative Technology; and as a member of the board of trustees of GenEdge Alliance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Dr. Linwood H. Rose for his exemplary leadership as president of James Madison University; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dr. Linwood H. Rose as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for his many valuable contributions to the advancement of higher education in the Commonwealth and best wishes in all his future endeavors.

INTRODUCED

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