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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 273

Offered February 4, 2014

*Commending the Virginia Governor's School program.*

Patrons—Farrell and Garrett

WHEREAS, in 2013, the Virginia Governor's School program celebrated 40 years of providing students with the tools to become responsible, successful citizens of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Governor's School program was founded by Governor A. Linwood Holton, Jr., in 1973; the original summer program was so popular that students requested a year-round experience; and

WHEREAS, today, Governor's Schools serve over 7,500 students from throughout the Commonwealth; three of the schools offer full-day programs, while the others offer part-day, online, or summer programs; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Governor's School program allows localities to efficiently provide opportunities for gifted students; Governor's Schools offer advanced curricula allowing students to learn at their own pace, with additional programs for students who excel in specific disciplines; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Governor's School program strengthens the future of the Commonwealth by helping to create a skilled, highly motivated workforce; many graduates of the program have gone on to become accomplished leaders in business, public service, and their communities in the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Governor's School program exemplifies the importance of public education and demonstrates the importance of collaboration between counties, cities, and towns in supporting education; and

WHEREAS, bringing recognition to the Commonwealth on a national stage each year, two Virginia Governor's Schools are consistently ranked highly by *Newsweek* and *U.S. News & World Report*; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing success of the Governor's School program would not be possible without the enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work of the students, faculty, and staff of each of the 19 academic-year schools; and

WHEREAS, in addition to providing a high-quality core curriculum, each of the 19 academic-year schools—A. Linwood Holton Governor's School, Appomattox Regional Governor's School for the Arts and Technology, Blue Ridge Virtual Governor's School, Central Virginia Governor's School, Chesapeake Bay Governor's School for Marine and Environmental Science, Commonwealth Governor's School, Governor's School for the Arts, Jackson River Governor's School, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School for Government and International Studies, Massanutten Governor's School for Integrated Science and Technology, Mountain Vista Governor's School for Science, Math, and Technology, New Horizons Governor's School for Science and Technology, Piedmont Governor's School for Mathematics, Science, and Technology, Roanoke Valley Governor's School for Science and Technology, Shenandoah Valley Governor's School, Southwest Virginia Governor's School for Science, Mathematics and Technology, Governor's School of Southside Virginia, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, and Governor's School at Innovation Park—offers unique perspectives, specializations, and opportunities for students; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Virginia Governor's School program on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the first Governor's School in 2013; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Governor's School program as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the schools' commitment to preparing students in the Commonwealth for college, careers, and citizenship.

INTRODUCED

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