

2016 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 479

Offered March 7, 2016

Commending the Town of Farmville.

Patrons—Edmunds and Mason

WHEREAS, higher education holds a revered place in the history of the Commonwealth, dating back more than three centuries; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's distinguished collection of public and private colleges and universities are today among its greatest strengths, instrumental to both the nation's prosperity and a healthy democracy; and

WHEREAS, college towns—as places of teaching and learning, as beacons of culture, as places to gather, and as wellsprings of civic energy—make essential contributions to the common good; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Farmville was founded in 1798, and Prince Edward County was founded in 1754; and

WHEREAS, Farmville is situated at an important historical crossroads, near the place where the Civil War drew to a close in 1865 and the site where the modern civil rights movement began with the heroic Robert Russa Moton High School student strike of 1951; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of the founding of Hampden-Sydney College in 1775 and Longwood University in 1839, with both institutions today still situated six and a half miles from one another at the historic sites where they were first founded, one within the town and one almost immediately adjacent for nearly two centuries, Farmville can claim to be not only Virginia's first two-college town, but the first two-college town in America; and

WHEREAS, Farmville is today experiencing the momentum of an influx of activity and development that is restoring great vibrancy and character to its downtown, and it is celebrating its identity as one of America's great college towns; the community will welcome the nation and the world when Longwood University hosts the United States Vice Presidential Debate on October 4, 2016; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Town of Farmville, America's first two-college town; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Town of Farmville as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the town's unique place in the nation's history.

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