

2017 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 262

Commending Arlington Outdoor Lab.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 12, 2017
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 20, 2017

WHEREAS, Arlington Outdoor Lab, a 225-acre outdoor science facility in the Bull Run Mountains, has provided educational and recreational opportunities to students in Arlington Public Schools for 50 years; and

WHEREAS, Arlington Outdoor Lab was created by Phoebe Hall Knipling, a visionary science educator whose drive and determination were critical to the success of the lab, and with generous financial support from Preston Caruthers, a local philanthropist and civic leader; and

WHEREAS, located in Fauquier County, Arlington Outdoor Lab was established in 1967 as a partnership between Arlington Public Schools and the Arlington Outdoor Education Association, a nonprofit volunteer organization created to support the lab; and

WHEREAS, Arlington Outdoor Lab comprises a variety of beautiful natural features, including a stream valley, a pond, trails, and a large forested landscape teeming with flora and fauna, most of which is protected by a voluntary conservation easement held by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Broad Run-Little Georgetown Rural Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Arlington Outdoor Lab includes Glasscock Gap, which was used by the Confederate States Army as passage through the Bull Run Mountains during the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, each year, Arlington Outdoor Lab provides hands-on science and environmental education to more than 9,000 Arlington Public Schools students through various activities, presentations, and events focusing on the natural world; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Arlington Outdoor Lab was named as a Virginia Treasure by Governor Terence R. McAuliffe, highlighting the lab's unique ecological, cultural, scenic, and recreational assets, and a year-long celebration of Arlington Outdoor Lab's 50th anniversary began on June 4, 2016; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Arlington Outdoor Lab for offering unique educational opportunities to young Virginians on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Arlington Outdoor Education Association Board of Directors as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for Arlington Outdoor Lab's contributions to science and education in Arlington County.

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