SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 112

Commending George Mason University Korea.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 2, 2020 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 3, 2020

WHEREAS, George Mason University Korea, a satellite campus of the distinguished public institution of higher education in Fairfax County, celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2019; and

WHEREAS, established in 2014 as part of the Incheon Global Campus in Songdo, South Korea, which aspires to be the preeminent global education hub in Northeast Asia, George Mason University Korea (GMUK) provides a unique and innovative educational experience for Korean and American students; and

WHEREAS, with a faculty of preeminent scholars and experts, including several Nobel Prize laureates, GMUK offers degrees certified by the home institution, including leading degree programs in the areas of conflict analysis and resolution, and economics; and

WHEREAS, as part of the GMUK curriculum, Korean students must spend one year studying at the university's home campus in Fairfax, while American students may spend up to a year taking classes in Songdo, South Korea, encouraging lively international exchange that enriches students' lives; and

WHEREAS, by offering a first-class American education without the expense of living abroad for many years, GMUK creates exceptional opportunities for its Korean students and positions them for success; and

WHEREAS, with the possibility of studying in South Korea without the need to apply to external universities, GMUK offers its American students an easy and attractive way to experience another culture without disrupting their studies; and

WHEREAS, through numerous internship and recruitment opportunities, and the support of the GMUK Career Development Center, students leave GMUK prepared to apply their education toward promising and worthwhile careers; and

WHEREAS, GMUK is just one example of how George Mason University, the largest public research university in the Commonwealth, consistently pursues excellence while developing exciting, new ways to serve its students; and

WHÉREAS, by providing a diverse and inclusive learning environment and a curriculum that is responsive to the needs of its students, GMUK will become a standard bearer for global education initiatives and the alma mater of many of the world's future leaders; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend George Mason University Korea, Virginia's largest public research university in Northeast Asia's education hub, on the occasion of its fifth anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Anne Holton, president of George Mason University, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the university's efforts to provide an exemplary education to students around the world.