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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 326

Offered March 2, 2022

Commending Massanutten Technical Center.

Patrons—Wilt, Bell, Gilbert and Runion; Senators: Hanger and Obenshain

WHEREAS, Massanutten Technical Center, an institution providing career and technical training to high school students and other residents of the City of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2022; and

WHEREAS, Massanutten Technical Center opened as the Massanutten Vocational Technical Center in 1972 and in its first year served 261 students through 12 different programs; and

WHEREAS, Massanutten Technical Center continued to grow over the years, expanding its campus with the additions of its east building and continuing education building in 1979 and 1984, respectively, while broadening the populations it served with the introduction of adult education programs in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Massanutten Technical Center has undertaken subsequent additions and renovations to its facilities in recent years to provide its students with a first-class learning environment; and

WHEREAS, Massanutten Technical Center opened its health and safety building in 2010 to serve as the home for its nursing, criminal justice, and fire and rescue programs; and

WHEREAS, to enhance training opportunities for individuals studying the culinary arts, Massanutten Technical Center opened the Bistro@MTC, a student-run public restaurant for the community, in 2018; and

WHEREAS, that same year, Massanutten Technical Center initiated its MTC Community Day and Concert Series, which has since brought renowned artists such as Aaron Tippin, Craig Morgan, and Girl Named Tom to perform for the enjoyment of students, staff, and others, while beginning the enrollment of high school students in its youth apprenticeship program; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, Massanutten Technical Center continued to bolster its ability to prepare young people for successful careers, opening its Educational Security Operations Center for cybersecurity training, the first program of its kind for high school students in the country; and

WHEREAS, as a testament to the quality and rigor of its courses, Massanutten Technical Center saw its students bring home 21 gold medals, six silver medals, and 16 bronze medals at the SkillsUSA Virginia competition in 2019; and

WHEREAS, Massanutten Technical Center established its latest high school technical program, aviation maintenance technology, in 2022 and currently has approximately 1,000 high school students enrolled across 21 programs; and

WHEREAS, with 55 continuing education classes for adults supported by 65 apprenticeship sponsors, Massanutten Technical Center has helped train more than 45,000 individuals in the community, giving them the tools they need to achieve their dreams; and

WHEREAS, Massanutten Technical Center offers English as a Second Language and General Education Development classes, reflecting its commitment to meeting the specific needs of the community it serves; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Massanutten Technical Center on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Massanutten Technical Center as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its history and its contributions to the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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