

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 259

*Commending the Library of Virginia.*

Agreed to by the Senate, January 12, 2023  
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 16, 2023

WHEREAS, for 200 years, the Library of Virginia has acquired, preserved, and provided access to unique collections of documents and other media related to the history of Virginia while advancing the fields of library science and records management throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, originally located on the third floor of the State Capitol, the Library of Virginia was established by the General Assembly in 1823 to organize, care for, and manage the Commonwealth's collection of books and official records, many of which dated back to the early Colonial period; and

WHEREAS, as its collection continued to expand over the years, the Library of Virginia relocated to what is now the Oliver Hill Building in 1895 and to what is now the Patrick Henry Building in 1940; the institution moved to its current location on East Broad Street in 1997; and

WHEREAS, with the largest and most comprehensive collection of materials on Virginia government, history, and culture, the Library of Virginia highlights the people, places, and events that have made Virginia unique and demonstrates the Commonwealth's contributions to the United States and the world; and

WHEREAS, the Library of Virginia features highly regarded manuscript, map, and photographic collections that have attracted researchers from around the globe and many of its resources are available online through digital collections; the institution hosts a wide array of exhibitions, lectures, and other educational programs for members of the public; and

WHEREAS, the Library of Virginia provides critical research and reference assistance to members of state government and manages the State Records Center, which houses inactive, non-permanent records of state agencies and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the Library of Virginia has also offered consulting services to public library systems in the Commonwealth and administers numerous local, state, and federal grant programs; and

WHEREAS, over the course of its history, the Library of Virginia has inspired a passion for learning and creativity among countless patrons, facilitated understanding of the past, and helped state officials and agencies build a stronger future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Library of Virginia on the occasion of its 200th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Library of Virginia as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the institution's work to preserve the history and heritage of the Commonwealth and contributions to state government, education, and library science.