HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 355

Designating January 31 as Retired Teachers Day in Virginia.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 1996 Agreed to by the Senate, March 8, 1996

WHEREAS, in the words of philosopher and historian Henry Adams, "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops"; and

WHEREAS, the influence of the Commonwealth's teachers, charged with the education of Virginia's most valuable resource, never stops; and

WHEREAS, too often forgotten in the controversies swirling about public education in Virginia is the selfless dedication of thousands of teachers; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Retired Teachers Association, a group organized to promote the general welfare of retired teachers, encourages recognition of the manifold contributions of Virginia's teachers; and

WHEREAS, the association also assists retired educators in remaining active and using their considerable talents in continuing to contribute to community and statewide service activities; and

WHEREAS, it is entirely appropriate that Virginia's retired teachers be recognized and honored both for their vital contributions to the education of the Commonwealth's students and for their continuing efforts on behalf of their communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate January 31, 1997, and January 31 of each succeeding year, as Retired Teachers Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the General Assembly urge the citizens of the Commonwealth to reflect upon the essential role that teachers play in the education of our youth and in the continued success and prosperity of the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the President of the Virginia Retired Teachers Association in honor of its invaluable efforts on behalf of the Commonwealth's retired teachers.