

# 1997 SESSION

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 538

Offered January 20, 1997

*Memorializing Virginia's Congressional delegation to continue support for the National Center for Resource Innovations - Chesapeake and commending them for their support for this program that is working for the betterment of the Commonwealth's future.*

Patrons—Plum and Murphy

Referred to Committee on Chesapeake and Its Tributaries

WHEREAS, successful private and public decision-making and environmental policy require information describing land, water and air resources including, but not limited to, land cover, climate, soils, water resources, geology, coastal areas, ecosystems, and habitats; and

WHEREAS, this information needs to incorporate a systems-based approach to organize, analyze and display this information while making it broadly available; and

WHEREAS, though needed data layers and information system components are often available from federal, state and local governments, they are rarely integrated spatially or temporally in ways that adequately support essential and timely public and private decision-making; and

WHEREAS, the National Center for Resource Innovations - Chesapeake, Inc. (NCRI), a Virginia not-for-profit corporation, was established with the assistance of funding through the United States Department of Agriculture, and has a mission to build collaborative, cooperative, multi-disciplinary geographic information system-based decision making tools, including those that will integrate data and information in ways supportive of informed, accurate decision-making for local governments; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's U.S. Senators were among NCRI's initial sponsors and in 1990 were joined in their support by a majority of Virginia's delegation to the U. S. House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, the innovative environmental and agricultural information systems being built by NCRI have special value to decision-makers in the Commonwealth to foster better understanding of the Commonwealth's diverse physiography, resources use, and communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That Virginia's delegation to Congress be urged to continue their support for the National Center for Resource Innovation - Chesapeake, and that they be commended for their foresight in establishing and supporting this program working on behalf of the future of Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to each member of Virginia's Congressional delegation in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the Virginia General Assembly.

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