WHEREAS the Higher Education Restructuring Act is acknowledged to be in the forefront of higher education reform and,

WHEREAS it establishes new relationships between the state, institutions of higher learning, and the public, and

WHEREAS this is the first certification process which utilizes targets and thresholds for each measure, and hence it is not unexpected that technical issues would arise that require deliberation beyond this immediate cycle of consideration; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia will apply a more liberal standard in this first year to the application of certification than it expects to apply in future years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies for 2008-09 that the following public institutions have satisfactorily met the performance standards of the Higher Education Restructuring Act and the 2007 Appropriation Act:

Christopher Newport University
College of William and Mary
George Mason University
James Madison University
Norfolk State University
Old Dominion University
Richard Bland College
Radford University
University of Mary Washington
University of Virginia
Virginia Community College System
Virginia Military Institute
Virginia Tech

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia certifies for 2008-09 that the following public institutions have substantially met the performance standards of the Higher Education Restructuring Act and the 2007 Appropriation Act:

Longwood University
University of Virginia's College at Wise
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia State University

This approval is coupled with the Council's requirement that these institutions submit to staff a plan for improvement in those areas of institutional performance where targets were not fully met.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia will create a restructuring task force comprised of Council members, Council staff, and college representatives (with input from legislators or legislative staff) to recommend to the Council technical corrections to the Higher Education Restructuring Act or to the certification process that will enhance the effectiveness and the intent of the Act.