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By:  VanDeaver H.R. No. 323

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Wake Forest University School of Divinity in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, is celebrating the 20th anniversary of its founding in August 2019; and

WHEREAS, A graduate professional school of the nationally recognized Wake Forest University, the School of Divinity seeks to prepare religious leaders with the theological, spiritual, and practical foundation necessary to fulfill their vocational duties as agents of justice, reconciliation, and compassion; the school upholds the value of faithful civic engagement through an institutional commitment to establishing justice and building strong communities, as well as to responsible stewardship at both the local and global levels; and

WHEREAS, Numerous alumni of the Wake Forest University School of Divinity currently serve in congregations and positions of service across the Lone Star State; Texans have played important roles in shaping the school since its establishment, including its founding dean, Bill J. Leonard, as well as three members of the faculty; moreover, the school bears the lasting imprint of the late professor James M. Dunn, a proud Texan who championed religious liberty and liberty of conscience throughout his long and distinguished career in public life; and

WHEREAS, The Wake Forest University School of Divinity has enriched Texas communities through the outstanding work of its faculty, students, and alumni, and it is indeed worthy of recognition as it marks this important milestone in its history; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Wake Forest University School of Divinity and express sincere gratitude for its service to citizens and communities in Texas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for the school as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.