A house resolution

honoring the 150th anniversary of Gustavus Adolphus College

WHEREAS, Gustavus Adolphus College was founded 150 years ago by Swedish Lutheran immigrants under the leadership of Pastor Eric Norelius. The school was the first co-educational institution in the newly-formed Augustana Synod to teach students to become pastors and teachers; and

WHEREAS, the school moved to East Union, Minnesota in 1863 and was first named Minnesota Elementar Skola before becoming St. Ansgar's Academy; and

WHEREAS, in 1873, the school was renamed Gustavus Adolphus Literary and Theological Institute in honor of Gustav II Adolf, the Swedish king who created the gymnasia system of education; and

WHEREAS, commitments of support by many community members enabled St. Peter to bid successfully and become the school's home in 1874. Two years later, the newly-named Gustavus Adolphus College opened in St. Peter; and

WHEREAS, Gustavus Adolphus College is a nationally-recognized four-year liberal arts institution under the auspices of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and firmly rooted in its Swedish and Lutheran traditions; and

WHEREAS, Gustavus Adolphus College fosters students' engagement in excellence, faith, service, justice, and community as an integral part of intellectual growth and seeks to promote students' leadership and service to the world; and

WHEREAS, Gustavus Adolphus College aspires to be a community of persons from diverse backgrounds who respect and affirm the dignity of all people, an institution where a mature understanding of Christian faith and lives of service are nurtured, and a place where students are encouraged to work toward a just and peaceful world; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration of the House of Representatives of the State of Minnesota that it congratulates Gustavus Adolphus College on its 150th anniversary, and extends best wishes for the celebration during the upcoming academic year.

Dated: August 16, 2011

Kurt Zellers, Speaker
Minnesota House of Representatives

Matt Dean, Chair
Rules and Legislative Administration

Terry Morrow
State Representative