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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 414

Offered February 12, 2013

*Commending Richard K. Taube.*

Patron—Herring

WHEREAS, Richard K. Taube, the executive director of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, will retire in March 2013 after nearly 30 years of distinguished service; and

WHEREAS, Richard "Rick" Taube brought a wealth of experience in economics and transportation to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) when he was appointed executive director in 1984; and

WHEREAS, for nearly three decades, Rick Taube has provided visionary leadership to enable the NVTC to fulfill its mission and serve the citizens of the Commonwealth through the provision of public transit and ride-sharing services; and

WHEREAS, Rick Taube has reported to a 20-person board of state and local elected officials and overseen the management of up to \$200 million in annual public transit assistance for a district that encompasses three counties and three cities with a combined population of 1.7 million people; and

WHEREAS, Rick Taube has led the effort to bring the Northern Virginia region together to support an integrated transit system with coordinated routes and fares to serve better the growing population of the area, with such innovations as SmarTrip fareboxes and electronic access to transit schedules; and

WHEREAS, Rick Taube led discussions with non-NVTC jurisdictions to create the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) and to establish a joint project with the PRTC—the Virginia Railway Express, a commuter-oriented rail passenger service; and

WHEREAS, Rick Taube initiated a multiregional effort to create the Virginia Vanpool Promotion project to increase the use of vans by commuting residents; and

WHEREAS, Rick Taube worked collaboratively with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, local bus systems, and transportation management associations to advance the use of public transportation and ride sharing; and

WHEREAS, Rick Taube oversaw the initiation of free bus fares on "code red bad air" days to promote the use of public transportation and protect air quality; and

WHEREAS, Rick Taube has directed numerous studies to evaluate current and future transportation plans to ensure that public transportation needs are met, including a senior mobility study and emergency response planning; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure with the NVTC, Rick Taube has worked tirelessly to procure funding for public transportation, working with a host of individuals, agencies, and institutions; and

WHEREAS, Rick Taube has served in various roles with national organizations throughout his career and established NVTC as one of the top government transportation entities in the nation; and

WHEREAS, a remarkably effective and nationally respected leader, Rick Taube has served the public and the Commonwealth with uncommon intelligence, skill, and dedication; and

WHEREAS, in his well-deserved retirement, Rick Taube will be relocating to Los Angeles and looks forward to spending time with family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Richard K. Taube for his distinguished service on the occasion of his retirement from the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Richard K. Taube as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for his dedicated efforts to promote public transit and ride sharing in Northern Virginia.

INTRODUCED

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