HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 419

Commending William Clyde Elliott.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 2, 2018 Agreed to by the Senate, March 6, 2018

WHEREAS, on April 10, 1988, William Clyde Elliot earned his first career short track win at Bristol Motor Speedway, leading to a six-win season that culminated with a championship victory in the 1988 Winston Cup Series; and

WHEREAS, a native of Dawsonville, Georgia, William "Bill" Clyde Elliott began racing with a family-run team in the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) Winston Cup Series in 1976 and went on to become one of the most beloved drivers in the league, winning the NASCAR Most Popular Driver Award for a record of 16 times; and

WHÊREAS, Bill Elliott's best season began at Bristol Motor Speedway, then known as Bristol International Raceway, in 1988, when he won the Valleydale Meats 500; in lap 493 of the thrilling race, another driver who was attempting to pass caused Bill Elliot to wreck, nearly taking him out of contention; and

WHEREAS, with one of the greatest performances in the history of Bristol Motor Speedway, Bill Elliot recovered from the wreck, regained the lead in lap 498, and controlled the track for the final three laps, winning by two car lengths; and

WHEREAS, Bill Elliot still holds records for the fastest qualifying speed at Daytona International Speedway and the fastest qualifying speed in NASCAR history, which he set at Talladega Superspeedway; and

WHEREAS, Bill Elliot was inducted into the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America in 2007 and into the NASCAR Hall of Fame in 2015; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend William Clyde Elliot on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of his first career short track win in 1988; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to William Clyde Elliott as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his achievements.