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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 466

Offered March 5, 2018

Commending Center in the Square.

Patrons—Rasoul, Adams, D.M., Aird, Austin, Ayala, Bell, John J., Boysko, Bulova, Carr, Carroll Foy, Carter, Convirs-Fowler, Filler-Corn, Guzman, Habeeb, Head, Heretick, Herring, Hope, Hurst, Keam, Krizek, Lopez, McQuinn, Murphy, Plum, Price, Rodman, Simon, Sullivan, Torian, Toscano, Turpin, Tyler, Ward, Ware and Watts; Senators: Edwards and Wagner

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WHEREAS, Center in the Square, an arts and cultural district in downtown Roanoke, has enhanced the quality of life and strengthened the economy of the community for 35 years; and

WHEREAS, Center in the Square traces its roots to the late 1970s, when a local business league launched a comprehensive project to revitalize downtown Roanoke called Design '79; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, five arts and science organizations—the Science Museum, the Mill Mountain Theatre, the Roanoke Valley History Museum, the Arts Council of the Blue Ridge, and the Roanoke Museum of Fine Arts (now the Art Museum of Western Virginia)—moved into Center in the Square; and

WHEREAS, Center in the Square officially opened on December 9, 1983, with 40,000 visitors in its first weekend; in its 35-year history, Center in the Square has added shops, restaurants, offices, and other activities and destinations; and

WHEREAS, Center in the Square is owned and operated by the Western Virginia Foundation for the Arts and Sciences, a nonprofit organization that provides support to resident organizations and businesses with the generous support of corporate and individual donors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Center in the Square on the occasion of its 35th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Western Virginia Foundation for the Arts and Sciences as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for Center in the Square's contributions to the cultural spirit and economic vitality of downtown Roanoke.

INTRODUCED

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