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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 180

Offered February 26, 2018

*Commending CGI Southwest Virginia Technology Center of Excellence.*Patron—Chafin

WHEREAS, CGI Technologies and Solutions, Inc., opened its first United States Onshore IT Services Delivery Center, commonly referred to as the CGI Southwest Virginia Technology Center of Excellence, in Lebanon, in January 2006, and the center celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2016; and

WHEREAS, with its United States headquarters located in Fairfax County, CGI Technologies and Solutions, Inc., is one of the largest independent information technology and business process services firms in the world; and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Virginia Technology Center of Excellence was made possible with the support of the Virginia Governor's office, Russell County Industrial Development Authority, Town of Lebanon, and partnerships with Virginia universities and community colleges; and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Virginia Technology Center of Excellence now employs more than 400 professionals; and

WHEREAS, CGI selected Lebanon, a town of 3,200 people located in Russell County, based on the area's quality of life, geographic proximity to a large market for information technology services, strong business incentives from the Commonwealth, collaboration with business-friendly state and local governments, and strong partnerships with academic institutions; and

WHEREAS, the location of the Southwest Virginia Technology Center of Excellence allows many local graduates to remain in the area to pursue a career in information technology, and has allowed many others to return to Southwest Virginia and still pursue a career in technology; and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Virginia Technology Center of Excellence provides world-class information technology systems development, maintenance, and integration services to federal, state, and local governments, as well as telecom, financial services, insurance, retail, and manufacturing firms; and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Virginia Technology Center of Excellence hosts customized training programs delivered by local educational partners and draws skilled local talent from a feeder system of more than 30 colleges and universities, a strong recruiting network, and regionally sponsored programs; and

WHEREAS, as an active corporate citizen, the Southwest Virginia Technology Center of Excellence provides financial contributions and volunteer support to such causes as the Russell County Veterans Memorial Park, Soldiers' Angels, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) programs, and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team in Training; and

WHEREAS, the Southwest Virginia Technology Center of Excellence demonstrates that public-private partnerships, when properly structured, can create and sustain well-paying jobs in rural areas of the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the CGI Southwest Virginia Technology Center of Excellence on the occasion of its 10th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the employees of the CGI Southwest Virginia Technology Center of Excellence as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for their diligent work, commitment to the Commonwealth, and contributions to the local economy of Southwest Virginia.

INTRODUCED

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