

2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 244

Commending Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 7, 2018
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 8, 2018

WHEREAS, Beverly T. "Bev" Fitzpatrick, Jr., retired from the Virginia Museum of Transportation in 2017 following an eleven-year term as the museum's Executive Director; and

WHEREAS, upon entering the position of Executive Director, Mr. Fitzpatrick quickly demonstrated leadership by successfully restoring the museum to a position of financial stability; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Mr. Fitzpatrick's transformative leadership, the museum's annual operations budget grew from three hundred thousand dollars to more than one million dollars, and the museum added nine additional full-time staff positions; and

WHEREAS, during Mr. Fitzpatrick's tenure, the Virginia Museum of Transportation significantly expanded the audience for its exhibits, increasing annual attendance from twelve thousand to approximately fifty thousand visitors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fitzpatrick oversaw the one million-dollar restoration of the Norfolk & Western 611, completed in 2015, which represented a triumphant moment for the Virginia Museum of Transportation and has provided an opportunity for thousands of rail enthusiasts to experience classic steam locomotive travel; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fitzpatrick has demonstrated an unmatched commitment to preserving the history of transportation in the Commonwealth for more than five decades, beginning with a term on the board of the Roanoke Transportation Museum during his teenage years; and

WHEREAS, completion of Mr. Fitzpatrick's successful tenure at the Virginia Museum of Transportation represents the culmination of a long career in public service, including service as Vice-Mayor and a member of Roanoke City Council and service with Blue Ridge Public Television; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., on his retirement from the Virginia Museum of Transportation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for his exemplary service to the Roanoke Valley and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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