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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 60

Offered January 10, 2018

Commending Virginia public school bus drivers.

Patrons—Hanger, Barker, Black, Carrico, Dance, Deeds, DeSteph, Dunnavant, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Howell, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Mason, McClellan, McDougle, McPike, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Petersen, Ruff, Saslaw, Spruill, Stanley, Surovell, Vogel and Wexton

WHEREAS, Virginia public school bus drivers make essential contributions to the Commonwealth's outstanding public education system by ensuring that students arrive at school safely and punctually; and

WHEREAS, during the 2015-2016 academic year, more than 850,000 students were transported to and from school on more than 15,500 buses every day; Virginia public school bus drivers traveled more than 131 million miles during the year; and

WHEREAS, Virginia public school bus drivers are highly trained and demonstrate the ability to drive safely and responsibly, regardless of weather or road conditions; they are also prepared to offer life-saving leadership in the event of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, working long and sometimes difficult shifts, Virginia public school bus drivers reliably deliver their charges to places of learning and back to their homes in darkness and daylight and in rain, snow, or wind; and

WHEREAS, Virginia public school bus drivers willingly accept a great deal of responsibility and perform their duties in a courteous and professional manner; acting as mediators, listeners, and mentors, they have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young people by exhibiting patience and kindness in all interactions; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has an excellent record of public school transportation safety, thanks in large part to its bus drivers, and the Virginia Department of Education continues to improve and enhance safety measures and update specifications on public school buses; and

WHEREAS, many people rely on buses to provide a safe and effective way for their children to get to school; Virginia public school bus drivers are deserving of the immense trust placed in them by parents, teachers, and school administrators; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Virginia public school bus drivers for their work to ensure the safety and well-being of the youth of the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Department of Education as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration of Virginia public school bus drivers' many contributions to the Commonwealth's world-class education system.

INTRODUCED

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