

## 2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 39

*Commending Ron Belay.*

Agreed to by the Senate, February 22, 2018

WHEREAS, Ron Belay has served the Commonwealth with dedication and distinction in the field of criminal justice for five decades; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Ron Belay began his career in criminal justice as a juvenile probation officer in Christiansburg in 1968; he later worked for the Division of Youth Services under the now obsolete Department of Welfare and Institutions; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his 50-year career, Ron Belay saw the name of his agency change from the Division of Youth Services to the Division of Youth and Family Services in 1990 and the Department of Juvenile Justice in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Ron Belay has served as a probation officer, probation supervisor, and chief probation officer, and he is the director of the Twenty-ninth District Court Service Unit, handling cases in the counties of Bland, Buchanan, Dickenson, Giles, Russell, and Tazewell; and

WHEREAS, Ron Belay has served on several boards and task forces, including the State and Local Advisory Team and the board of New River Valley Detention Home; he also played a pivotal role in the creation of a group home for girls in Lebanon; and

WHEREAS, for the entirety of his career, Ron Belay has been an active member of what is now the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association, serving in many capacities at district and state levels, including 30 continuous years in leadership roles; he served as state president for eight years, state treasurer for two years, district chair for two years, and district treasurer for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of Ron Belay's incredible contributions to the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association, the organization presented him with its Meritorious Award in the Area of Administration in 1989 and honored him as a lifetime member in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Ron Belay also works as a ski instructor in West Virginia and Colorado; in all his endeavors, he enjoys the love and support of his wife, two grown sons, two stepsons, two grandsons, and two step-grandchildren; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Ron Belay hereby be commended for his outstanding contributions to Virginia's criminal justice system; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Ron Belay as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for his more than 50 years of service to the Commonwealth.

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