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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 42

Offered February 19, 2018

Commending David McKee.

Patrons—Cosgrove, Barker, Black, Carrico, Chafin, Chase, Dance, Deeds, DeSteph, Dunnavant, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Hanger, Howell, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Mason, McClellan, McDougle, McPike, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Peake, Petersen, Reeves, Ruff, Saslaw, Spruill, Stanley, Stuart, Sturtevant, Suetterlein, Surovell, Vogel, Wagner and Wexton

WHEREAS, David McKee, a dedicated educator who has served as director of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University's band for over 30 years, will retire in 2018 following a distinguished career in music; and

WHEREAS, a native of Indiana, David "Dave" McKee earned a bachelor's degree in music education from the Shenandoah Conservatory at Shenandoah University; he then spent several years as director of the bands at Westmoreland High School in Tennessee and Park View High School in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Dave McKee earned a master's degree in music education from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; that same year, he joined Virginia Tech's faculty and became director of its band, the Marching Virginians; and

WHEREAS, during his 32 years as director of the Marching Virginians, Dave McKee has led the band through numerous performances at nationally televised Virginia Tech football games as well as appearances at professional football games, NASCAR races, parades, and other special events; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure with the band, Dave McKee has helped strengthen the Marching Virginians Alumni Association; in 2015, he oversaw the opening of the Marching Virginians Center, a new rehearsal space that includes a practice field, storage building, and pavilion; and

WHEREAS, in addition to overseeing the Marching Virginians, Dave McKee directs Virginia Tech's Symphony Band; in 2013, he conducted the school's symphonic wind ensemble at the storied New York City concert venue, Carnegie Hall; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his career at Virginia Tech, Dave McKee has also directed the University Campus Band and the Metro Pep Band; and

WHEREAS, a talented percussionist and teacher, Dave McKee frequently serves as a guest musician, conductor, clinician, and competition juror at music events around the nation; and

WHEREAS, Dave McKee was one of the premier Virginia rock and roll drummers, playing throughout the Commonwealth with the band Cacapon; and

WHEREAS, Dave McKee is a member of the Atlantic Coast Conference Band Directors Association and the Virginia Music Educators Association; his many awards include a 2005 Certificate of Teaching Excellence from Virginia Tech's College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, throughout his notable tenure at Virginia Tech, Dave McKee has maintained the highest standards of excellence and won the respect of both students and colleagues for his leadership, dedication, and musical skill; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That David McKee hereby be commended on his many years of exemplary service as senior instructor of music and band director at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to David McKee as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for his impressive career accomplishments and best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.

INTRODUCED

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