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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 952

Offered February 13, 2019

Commending Robert A. Clement, Jr.

Patrons—Rasoul; Senators: Ebbin and Edwards

WHEREAS, Robert A. Clement, Jr., a longtime Roanoke resident and a distinguished city employee, retired as the Neighborhood Services Coordinator on October 1, 2018, after years of exemplary service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Robert "Bob" A. Clement, Jr., is a graduate of Patrick Henry High School and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, where he earned a degree in business; and

WHEREAS, prior to joining the City of Roanoke staff, Bob Clement worked as the manager of inflight services for Piedmont Airlines, and as an in-flight services manager for US Airways; and

WHEREAS, in June 2003, Bob Clement joined the City of Roanoke team as its Neighborhood Services Coordinator, where he carried out a wide variety of roles and responsibilities; he facilitated, supported, and nurtured the Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates group, an active liaison between Roanoke City Council and other neighborhood groups; and

WHEREAS, Bob Clement initiated Roanoke's Leadership College, a program designed to encourage city residents to learn about local government and operations, in an effort to promote a better understanding and relationship between citizens and their government, encourage citizens to participate in civic activities, and create opportunities for new leaders in the community; and

WHEREAS, Bob Clement regularly attended neighborhood meetings, organized new neighborhood groups, and worked closely with city boards and officials, sending out meeting reminders and agendas for the planning commission, board of zoning appeals, Roanoke City Council, and code enforcement court hearings; and

WHEREAS, Bob Clement has been a valuable resource for the more than 25 active neighborhood organizations throughout the city, communicating information about Neighborhood Development Grant funding, project opportunities, and educational resources; maintaining the grant process with help from Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates; and maintaining reports and reimbursements for grants; and

WHEREAS, as Neighborhood Services Coordinator, Bob Clement nurtured the development and sustainability of neighborhoods and quickly learned the importance of a strong, engaged citizenry to the overall health and vitality of the city, as well as the important roles that interpersonal relationships play in creating a sense of community and civic pride; and

WHEREAS, Bob Clement has received numerous awards and accolades for his dedication to Roanoke's neighborhoods, including the 2017 Ambassador Award for Outstanding Contributions in Civic Leadership, the first award of its kind; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his 15-year career, Bob Clement has enhanced the quality of life of the residents of Roanoke, and has helped build a better, stronger, and more collaborative community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Robert A. Clement, Jr., on the occasion of his retirement as the Roanoke Neighborhood Services Coordinator; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robert A. Clement, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his legacy of leadership and many contributions to communities throughout Roanoke.

INTRODUCED

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