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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 995

Offered February 14, 2019

Commending the Southern Area Agency on Aging.

Patrons—Marshall, Adams, L.R. and Poindexter; Senators: Ruff and Stanley

WHEREAS, the Southern Area Agency on Aging has for over 40 years helped residents of Danville, Martinsville, and the Counties of Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania age with dignity and stay engaged in the community; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Area Agency on Aging's mission is to provide services and resources promoting the health, quality of life, and independence of seniors, individuals with disabilities, and their families and caregivers, enabling people to live with dignity and freedom; and

WHEREAS, to better serve the population, the Southern Area Agency on Aging provides crucial programs and services including meals served at senior lunch sites; home repair assistance; personal care services; care coordination; recreational activities; mobility management services like "Miles 4 Vets," a program that improves access to medical care for veterans by providing wheelchair accessible transportation services; and the Care Transitions Program, which helps patients transition from hospital to home; and

WHEREAS, for its important services, the Southern Area Agency on Aging has garnered numerous grants, including grants from the Community Foundation for its emergency aid program for vulnerable seniors and a grant from the United Way of Roanoke Valley for providing medical-related transportation to Franklin County residents; the agency received a Best Practices Award from the Commonwealth Council on Aging in recognition of the success of its "Miles 4 Vets" transportation program; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Area Agency on Aging's work is made possible through the invaluable support of its volunteers, including Volunteer Driver Program participants Debbie Norton, Terry Davis, Sandra Hairston, Marquis Hamm, Mike Kelly, Kent Martin, Lorrie Stokes, William Stanley, Nancy Waller, and Joe Valder; In-Home Services volunteer, Delois Howard; and numerous others who assist with meal delivery, the Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Program, and other services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Southern Area Agency on Aging for over 40 years helping residents of Danville, Martinsville, and the Counties of Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania age with dignity and stay engaged in the community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Southern Area Agency on Aging as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its work to foster independence and healthy aging and improve the quality of life for seniors, individuals with disabilities, and their families and caregivers through comprehensive programs and services.

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