

2019 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 218

Commending the Town of Lebanon.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 15, 2019

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2019, the Town of Lebanon, the county seat of Russell County and a vibrant part of the Southwest Virginia community, celebrated the 200th anniversary of its establishment; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lebanon traces its roots to 1819, when it was established in Russell County; the community is thought to have taken its name from the abundant cedar trees in the area as a reference to the Lebanon species of cedar mentioned often in the Old Testament; and

WHEREAS, Lebanon was officially chartered on January 4, 1831, and incorporated on January 31, 1835, with Robert Boyd, Thomas M'Clearey, John Sewell, William Gibson, Samuel Whitsell, Henry B. Gillespie, and James Dixon as trustees; and

WHEREAS, in the town's early years, the economy of Lebanon depended largely on agriculture and coal mining, but since the 1990s, it has evolved into a high-tech business hub, supporting two Fortune 500 companies, AT&T and Northrup Grumman, as well as other technology and manufacturing businesses; and

WHEREAS, nestled in the rolling foothills of Clinch Mountain, Lebanon maintains its small-town, Appalachian charms and is committed to sustaining a high quality of life; the community is known as the Heart of Southwest Virginia, owing to its central location and easy access to a host of recreational opportunities for residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Lebanon is committed to preserving its valuable natural and historic resources; the Clinch River has been ranked as one of the most important rivers in the nation for its environmental diversity and significance, and the town is home to several sites on the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register, including Jessee's Mill, a grain mill built prior to 1790 that once served as the primary source of agricultural products and trade in the area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Town of Lebanon hereby be commended on the occasion of its 200th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Town of Lebanon as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for its unique history and contributions to the Southwest Virginia community.

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