SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 400

Commending the New River Valley Agency on Aging.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 18, 2019 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 2019

WHEREAS, for more than 40 years, the New River Valley Agency on Aging has played a vital role in helping local residents age with dignity by providing education, advocacy, and support; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the New River Valley Agency on Aging is to maximize the quality of life of older adults, adults with disabilities, and their care providers through support services, advocacy, and education; and

WHEREAS, to better serve constituents, the New River Valley Agency on Aging offers numerous programs including care coordination services, congregate meals, elder abuse prevention, home-delivered meals, homemaker services, information and assistance, legal services, medical transportation, an ombudsman program, and respite care; and

WHEREAS, the New River Valley Agency on Aging has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars annually for Medicare recipients through the services provided in the Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program, as well as cultivated strong community partnerships to proactively address aging in place within the communities the agency serves, engaging corporate support to contribute toward the service needs of vulnerable older adults; and

WHEREAS, the New River Valley Agency on Aging has won awards and recognition for its effective work including the National Area Agencies on Aging's Aging Innovations and Achievement Award, a Carilion Foundation grant to support transportation services; a New River Valley Health Foundation grant to support in-home services; the Commonwealth Council on Aging Best Practices Award; and funding from the Geriatric Training and Education initiative; and

WHEREAS, key volunteers like Deena Flinchum dedicate thousands of hours annually to serve the New River Valley Agency on Aging to support health insurance counseling and other services; groups like the Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging have recognized the New River Valley Agency on Aging for volunteer engagement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the New River Valley Agency on Aging for more than 40 years of assisting hundreds of older adults and their caregivers with services, information, and advocacy that helps them to stay in their homes and communities safely and with dignity; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the New River Valley Agency on Aging for fostering independence and healthy aging and improving the quality of life for older adults, their families, and their caregivers through comprehensive programs and services.