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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 394

Offered February 28, 2020

Commending Joseph DeVault.

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

WHEREAS, Joseph DeVault, dedicated educator and former member of the Henry County School Board, retired from the board on December 31, 2019, after 12 years of service; and

WHEREAS, serving as the board's at-large representative and as its chair in 2013 and 2018, Joseph "Joe" DeVault demonstrated a commitment to providing every child in Henry County with the educational tools they need to succeed; and

WHEREAS, the son of a school principal, Joe DeVault began his teaching career in 1965 as a teacher and coach at Drewry Mason High School, later serving as the principal of Rich Acres Elementary School, Drewry Mason High School, and Magna Vista High School in a career that spanned more than 30 years with Henry County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, following close to a decade as a principal of Dalton McMichael High School in Mayodan, North Carolina, Joe DeVault returned to Henry County Public Schools as a well-informed and influential voice on the Henry County School Board; and

WHEREAS, Henry County Public Schools accomplished significant improvements during Joe DeVault's tenure on the Henry County School Board, moving toward full accreditation, closing the achievement gap, incorporating more equitable curriculum offerings, improving school facilities, and constructing a new elementary school; and

WHEREAS, the Warrior Tech and Bengal Tech education programs introduced under Joe DeVault's stewardship were the first programs of their kind in Virginia, earning Henry County Public Schools state and national awards and preparing today's students for the world of tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, previously serving as both a member and chair on the Patrick Henry Community College Board, Joe DeVault supported the success of students pursuing higher education in Henry County; and

WHEREAS, to recognize Joe DeVault's tireless efforts, the Henry County Board of Supervisors presented him with the 2019 Jack Dalton Community Service Award, the county's highest citizen honor; and

WHEREAS, Joe DeVault's leadership, determination, and perseverance were invaluable assets to Henry County Public Schools during his 12 years on the Henry County School Board and his decades in the school division as a principal, teacher, and coach; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Joseph DeVault, longtime educator and valued civil servant, on the occasion of his retirement from the Henry County School Board; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Joseph DeVault as an expression of the General Assembly's profound respect and heartfelt admiration for his contributions to Henry County and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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