

2020 SESSION

INTRODUCED

20108539D

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 141

Offered February 20, 2020

Commending the Appalachian Society of American Foresters.

Patrons—Peake and Reeves

WHEREAS, the Appalachian Society of American Foresters, which represents Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina as part of the national Society of American Foresters, has supported forestry and natural resource professionals for nearly 100 years; and

WHEREAS, on October 28 and 29, 1921, foresters met in Asheville, North Carolina, to further the profession of forestry in America by fostering a spirit of camaraderie among foresters, creating opportunities for a free interchange of views on forestry and related subjects, and disseminating knowledge of the purpose and achievements of forestry; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of the Appalachian Society of American Foresters, the organization has grown from a charter membership of 15 individuals to more than 1,100 individuals in its member states in January 2020, with 350 members currently in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Appalachian Society of American Foresters is composed of a diverse group of foresters, registered foresters, forestry technicians, scientists, educators, students, and other natural resource practitioners; and

WHEREAS, the forest sector plays a key role in the economy of Virginia, with roughly 15.8 million acres of timberland supporting a robust forest products industry across the state; in 2015, the Virginia forest sector contributed more than \$21 billion to the economy and supported 108,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, using evidence-based research, members of the Appalachian Society of American Foresters promote the sustainable management of forest resources through science, education, and technology and use their knowledge, skills, and conservation ethic to ensure the continued health, integrity, and use of forests to benefit the people of the Commonwealth and the United States; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Appalachian Society of American Foresters on the occasion of its 100th anniversary on October 28 and 29, 2021; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Appalachian Society of American Foresters as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its efforts to maintain the values of professional competency, excellence, and commitment to conservation demonstrated by generations of foresters.

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