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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 296

Offered February 24, 2022

Commending Albert Payne, D.D.S.

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

WHEREAS, Albert Payne, D.D.S., an esteemed dentist residing in Pittsylvania County, was named Citizen of the Year by the Kiwanis Club of Danville in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Albert Payne was selected for what is recognized as one of the most prestigious honors in the region on the basis of his professional accomplishments; demonstration of religious and family values; participation in cultural, educational, and civic growth; public service; and leadership positions and citizenship recognitions in the community; and

WHEREAS, a native of Danville who graduated from George Washington High School, Albert Payne earned both a bachelor's degree in biology from The College of William & Mary in 1972 and a doctor of dental surgery degree from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry in 1976; and

WHEREAS, after completing his education, Albert Payne returned to his hometown to open a private practice, Danville Dental Associates, which he grew through hard work and visionary leadership into a beloved institution in the community; and

WHEREAS, Albert Payne and Danville Dental Associates now operate six offices in the region and regularly receive "Best Dentist" recognitions from the readers of local newspapers and other publications; and

WHEREAS, Albert Payne is committed to the advancement of the dentistry profession, serving as a member of the American Dental Association, the Virginia Dental Association, and the Danville Regional Dental Society, while being named a fellow to the Piedmont Dental Society, the American College of Dentists, and the International College of Dentists; he was on the board of directors of Delta Dental of Virginia from 1988 through 2016; and

WHEREAS, Albert Payne has served as a volunteer with the Virginia Dental Association's Mission of Mercy projects in Southwest Virginia and Danville, providing free dental care to low-income individuals, and has participated in the Give Thanks for Smiles program sponsored by Danville Dental Associates in November of each year; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to the health and well-being of young people, Albert Payne has sat on the board of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Danville and coached basketball and softball in Pittsylvania County youth leagues, while serving on the Pittsylvania County School Board from 1988 to 2000 and as president of the Tunstall High School Academic Booster Club and St. John's United Methodist Church Fishermen's Club; and

WHEREAS, Albert Payne enjoys worship and fellowship with his community at Trinity United Methodist Church in Danville and with United Methodist Men, with whom he spearheaded a project to plant and harvest potatoes for God's Storehouse in Danville; and

WHEREAS, through unwavering concern for others and an indefatigable commitment to service, Albert Payne has helped make both Danville and Pittsylvania County more wonderful places for residents to call home; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Albert L. Payne, D.D.S., for being named the 2021 Citizen of the Year by the Kiwanis Club of Danville; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Albert L. Payne, D.D.S., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his many contributions to the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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