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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 659

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled January 10, 2017

Commending the Grayson County Old-Time and Bluegrass Fiddlers' Convention.

Patrons—O'Quinn, Campbell, Kilgore, Morefield and Pillion; Senators: Carrico and Chafin

WHEREAS, the Grayson County Old-Time and Bluegrass Fiddlers' Convention in Elk Creek, a musical destination along The Crooked Road, is celebrating 50 years of filling the Blue Ridge highlands and Elk Creek Valley with toe-tapping, old-time dance music every June; and

WHEREAS, the Grayson County Fiddlers' Convention was started in 1967 as a joint fundraising effort between Grayson VFW Post 7726 and New River Wildlife and Conservation Club Inc., with each organization using moneys raised from the event to fund the facilities where both groups are housed today; and

WHEREAS, as the Grayson County Fiddlers' Convention grew in size it was moved from an athletic field in Independence to the Elk Creek School Ballpark in Elk Creek, and the Elk Creek Valley Volunteer Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary became cosponsors of the event with Grayson VFW Post 7726; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1990s, the Elk Creek Volunteer Fire Department became the sole sponsor of the Grayson County Fiddlers' Convention, which is now designated an "Official Crooked Road Event" along Virginia's Heritage Music Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Grayson County Fiddlers' Convention showcases the variety of instruments and performers involved in traditional bluegrass and features venues that offer the experience of "old time" music in intimate settings; the traditional music competition is held on Friday and Saturday, but many campers arrive days before to enjoy the peace and quiet of the Elk Creek Valley and the gorgeous mountain sunsets; and

WHEREAS, the Grayson County Fiddlers' Convention, held annually on the last full weekend in June, draws hundreds of bluegrass lovers from around the Commonwealth and neighboring areas and the support of the greater Grayson County community has been instrumental in making the event such a popular music destination; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Grayson County Old-Time and Bluegrass Fiddlers' Convention in Elk Creek on celebrating 50 years as a musical destination along The Crooked Road; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Grayson County Old-Time and Bluegrass Fiddlers' Convention as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for keeping a musical tradition alive.

INTRODUCED

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