

## 2017 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 413

*Commending the Russell County Community Work Program.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 20, 2017

WHEREAS, the Russell County Community Work Program has saved thousands of dollars by allowing nonviolent offenders to serve the community through trash clean-ups and other maintenance projects; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to address rising jail costs and increased populations in regional jails, Russell County implemented the Community Work Program to allow nonviolent offenders with no other pending charges and a sentence of less than 12 months to conduct monitored community service projects; and

WHEREAS, since the program began in August of 2016, the 41 participants of the Russell County Community Work Program have saved the county more than \$100,000 by providing labor at no expense to taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, members of the Russell County Community Work Program have collected more than 8,000 bags of trash and removed more than 400 tires from the Clinch River, cleaning sections of the river that have not received attention in many years; and

WHEREAS, other members of the Russell County Community Work Program have carried out landscaping at the Russell County Public Library; and

WHEREAS, the Russell County Community Work Program aims to reduce recidivism by giving nonviolent inmates a shared stake in the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Russell County Community Work Program hereby be commended for saving Russell County taxpayers thousands of dollars while providing much needed services; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Missy Carter, program coordinator of the Russell County Community Work Program, as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for Russell County's efforts to give nonviolent offenders a chance to serve and enhance the community.

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