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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 385

Offered February 8, 2017

*Commending Peggy Whitehead.*

Patrons—Deeds; Delegates: Bell, Richard P. and Fariss

WHEREAS, Peggy Whitehead is retiring in 2017, after a successful 25-year career at Blue Ridge Medical Center in Nelson County; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Whitehead earned a degree in sociology from The College of William and Mary; she previously worked in Lynchburg with the Virginia Employment Commission and then in the prevention department of the Central Virginia Community Services Board; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Whitehead came to work at Blue Ridge Medical Center in 1991, as a community organizer on the Rural Health Outreach team, and in that position she went door-to-door talking with residents about the importance of preventive health care; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Whitehead became interim administrator of Blue Ridge Medical Center in 2004, and a year later she was named administrator; over the past decade, the title of administrator was changed to executive director and then to chief executive officer; and

WHEREAS, under Peggy Whitehead's leadership, Blue Ridge Medical Center has grown and expanded to become a first-class medical center and employer of 93 individuals; and

WHEREAS, during Peggy Whitehead's tenure as CEO, Blue Ridge Medical Center moved to a new state-of-the-art facility in 2011, added pediatric and dental programs in 2012, expanded its behavioral health program in 2015, and established a patient education center in the Arrington facility in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Whitehead's duties as CEO include ensuring Blue Ridge Medical Center runs smoothly on a daily basis, working on content management systems, maintaining communication with staff, improving patient experiences, and grant writing and reporting; she has done an outstanding job in all areas; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Whitehead is tireless and utterly committed to providing and maintaining a viable and caring medical facility, and her compassion, dedication, and hard work are unwavering; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Whitehead has always been a social worker at heart, and she loves helping people in order to make their lives better; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Whitehead is grateful to her co-workers, fellow leaders, and the Blue Ridge Medical Center board of directors for all of their support over the course of her career; and

WHEREAS, when she retires in October 2017, Peggy Whitehead looks forward to spending more time with her family, including her three grandchildren, as well as traveling, reading, knitting, and taking in the scenery driving the back roads of Nelson County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Peggy Whitehead, the chief executive officer of Blue Ridge Medical Center, on her retirement after a successful 25-year career; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Peggy Whitehead as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her dedication and life's work in providing affordable and quality health care to the citizens of Nelson County.

INTRODUCED

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