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## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 426**

Offered March 1, 2018

Commending Sammy McCormick.

## Patron-Marshall

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WHEREAS, Sammy McCormick, a respected educator and active Pittsylvania County resident who served as head coach of the Dan River High School baseball team for 25 years, retired in 2017 following a distinguished career; and

WHEREAS, a native of the Dan River region, Sammy McCormick attended Dan River High School, where he lettered in football, basketball, and baseball; he then attended Elon University before earning a teaching certification from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University; and

WHEREAS, Sammy McCormick began his education career at Sutherlin Academy in Danville before joining Dan River High School in 1977; he remained there for the next 33 years, serving as a health and physical education teacher, driver's education instructor, and physical science teacher; and

WHEREAS, beginning in the early 1990s, Sammy McCormick served as head coach of Dan River High School's varsity baseball team; during his 25-year tenure, he led the team to multiple state and regional tournament appearances; and

WHEREAS, one of the highlights of Sammy McCormick's coaching career came in 1998, when he led the Dan River High School baseball team to a state championship and was selected as the Virginia High School League Group 2A coach of the year; and

WHEREAS, Sammy McCormick stepped down as head coach of the Dan River High School baseball team in January 2017, but stayed on as an assistant as the team claimed the Virginia High School League Group 2A state championship; and

WHEREAS, along with his duties at Dan River High School, Sammy McCormick helped create the Dan River youth football team and was a charter member of Pittsylvania County Youth Baseball; he also started youth T-ball and minor league baseball programs and volunteered his time as a youth football coach; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career in high school baseball, Sammy McCormick has worked tirelessly to nurture his players both as athletes and as people; his dedication to his teams is a credit to his school and his community; and

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2017, Sammy McCormick was honored with a retirement celebration at the Family Life Center at Ringgold Baptist Church, where he is a longtime member; now, therefore, be it

RÉSOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Sammy McCormick on his many years of success as the head coach of the Dan River High School baseball team; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sammy McCormick as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his career accomplishments and best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.