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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 379

Offered February 11, 2019

Commending Robert Cellell Dalton.

Patrons—Carrico; Delegates: Campbell, J.L., Kilgore and Pillion

WHEREAS, after 21 years of diligent service to the residents of Wythe County, Robert Cellell Dalton retired in 2016 as county administrator; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Hillsville High School, Cellell Dalton served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War, earning the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, after receiving a degree in civil engineering from Wytheville Community College, Cellell Dalton pursued a 15-year career with Anderson & Associates, Inc., where he worked on community enhancement projects, such as water and sewer improvements and industrial site development; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Cellell Dalton became the director of the Wythe County Department of Water and Wastewater; he oversaw the installation of a new sewer system that serves approximately 600 customers, expanded the county water system from 700 customers to 2,100 customers, and developed a regional water treatment facility; and

WHEREAS, after becoming county administrator in 1997, Cellell Dalton focused on strengthening the county's infrastructure to attract new businesses and industries and investing in the county's future; and

WHEREAS, Cellell Dalton worked with the Wythe County School Board and the Board of Supervisors to initiate multimillion-dollar construction and renovation projects for local schools, resulting in improvements to Max Meadows Elementary School; Rural Retreat Elementary, Middle, and High Schools; Sheffey Elementary School; Jackson Memorial Elementary School; and Fort Chiswell Middle School; and

WHEREAS, Cellell Dalton oversaw the acquisition and development of Wythe County Progress Park, an industrial park accompanied by new rail and road corridors, which has attracted national businesses to the region, leading to the creation of 600 new job opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Cellell Dalton also offered his wisdom and leadership to the New River Valley Regional Water Authority, Wythe/Bland Joint Public Service Authority, Crossroads Regional Industrial Facility, New River Valley Regional Jail Authority, and the Tourism Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, since his well-earned retirement from public office, Cellell Dalton remains in Wythe County and continues to serve the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Robert Cellell Dalton on the occasion of his retirement as county administrator of Wythe County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robert Cellell Dalton as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his leadership and service to Wythe County and the Commonwealth.