

2020 SESSION

INTRODUCED

20107991D

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 37

Offered February 24, 2020

Commending David S. Wright.

Patrons—Cosgrove and DeSteph

WHEREAS, David S. Wright, a professor of physics and mentor to thousands of Tidewater Community College students for more than 45 years, will retire from the institution on June 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, throughout his teaching career at Tidewater Community College, David Wright has inspired thousands of students with his creativity and enthusiasm for science education; and

WHEREAS, David Wright has elevated the global stature of Tidewater Community College through media reporting of his hands-on teaching style, which found him hopping on pogo sticks, lying flat on a bed of nails, and walking barefoot over broken glass to demonstrate the laws of physics to his students; and

WHEREAS, David Wright's students Erica Church and Kierra Brothers shared a video of his demonstrations on Twitter, which took the footage viral, amassing more than 25 million views within days; and

WHEREAS, David Wright has been invited to tell his and his students' stories on a variety of local, national, and global media outlets and programs, including *Good Morning America*, *NBC Nightly News*, the *India Times*, People.com, CNN, BBC, BuzzFeed, 13NewsNow.com, WAVY-TV, WTKR-TV, and the *Virginian-Pilot*; and

WHEREAS, for years, David Wright has shared his passion for the sciences with his "Physics in Motion" interactive shows at Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, Virginia, and Tampa, Florida; and

WHEREAS, David Wright was named Tidewater Community College's Professor of the Year in 2017; and

WHEREAS, David Wright was awarded his Ph.D. in physics at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, following completion of bachelor's and master's degrees at Brigham Young University; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That David S. Wright hereby be commended for his years of dedication to the advancement of scientific knowledge as an educator in service to the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to David S. Wright as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for his achievements and best wishes on his well-earned retirement.

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