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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 214

Offered March 7, 2022

Commending Gary Christie.

Patrons—Peake; Delegate: Fariss

WHEREAS, Gary Christie, longtime executive director of the Central Virginia Planning District Commission, has been a dedicated advocate for the coordination and cooperation of local governments and regional partners in Central Virginia for the past 18 years; and

WHEREAS, Gary Christie has served the public for more than 46 years, beginning as a staff associate to the Honorable Kenneth Hechler in the United States Senate and then as city/town manager of South Boston, executive director of the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission, county administrator for New Kent County, and a member of the Office of Management and Budget for the City of Lynchburg; and

WHEREAS, Gary Christie was hired by the Central Virginia Planning District Commission (CVPDC) in December 2004 to advance the organization's mission, vision, and goals through strategic implementation of its programs, plans, and projects within the 10 member localities of the planning district, which include Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford and Campbell Counties; the City of Lynchburg; and the Towns of Altavista, Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Brookneal; and

WHEREAS, during Gary Christie's tenure as CVPDC executive director, the agency and its partners successfully advanced regional collaboration and cooperation, as evidenced by CVPDC receiving a 2009 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations; and

WHEREAS, Gary Christie and CVPDC provided essential technical support to its member localities, making significant strides in the areas of community development, emergency services, transportation, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, Gary Christie and CVPDC have championed workforce and economic development initiatives throughout the region by leveraging resources to provide executive leadership and financial and human resource services to the Virginia Career Works Central Region; and

WHEREAS, Gary Christie and CVPDC also provided administrative, financial, and staff support to promote the goals and strategies of the Region 2000 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, as well as administrative support services to CVPDC's localities for numerous comprehensive community and downtown revitalization efforts; and

WHEREAS, during Gary Christie's tenure at CVPDC, he led its work to promote the health, safety, and well-being of the region through involvement in and development of various regional services and initiatives, including the Region 2000 Services Authority, Central Virginia Transportation Planning Organization, Central Virginia Radio Communications Board, Safe Routes to School, and Ride Solutions; and

WHEREAS, Gary Christie has continued his commitment to strengthening the region through participation in the community service efforts of local civic and religious organizations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Gary Christie, executive director of the Central Virginia Planning District Commission, on the occasion of his retirement; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Gary Christie as an expression of the General Assembly's sincere appreciation for his innumerable contributions to the Commonwealth and best wishes for a long and fulfilling retirement.

INTRODUCED

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