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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 184

Offered February 23, 2023

*Commending the Carter Family Fold.*

Patrons—Pillion and Hanger

WHEREAS, the Carter Family Fold, a music venue in Hiltons dedicated to preserving the Carter Family legacy and presenting traditional bluegrass and old-time country music, has been a pinnacle of the Commonwealth's cultural landscape since its founding; and

WHEREAS, the Carter Family was a musical group comprising Sara Carter, her husband, A.P. Carter, and her cousin and sister-in-law, Maybelle Carter, whose recordings during the now legendary Bristol Sessions in 1927 earned Bristol recognition as the "birthplace of country music"; today, the Carter Family is regarded as one of the most influential groups in the history of American music; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Janette Carter, daughter of Sara and A.P. Carter, established the Carter Family Fold as a concert venue dedicated to performances of old-time country and bluegrass music; and

WHEREAS, located in what is now Hiltons, the Carter Family Fold and its staff have worked to preserve traditional musical styles and support local artists, greatly enriching the culture of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Carter Family Fold has hosted both local acts and national stars in the pursuit of its mission, including Johnny Cash, Ricky Scaggs, Marty Stuart, John Paul Jones of Led Zeppelin, and many more; and

WHEREAS, the Carter Family Fold is currently managed by Rita Carter Forrester, daughter of Janette Carter, who has served as executive director of the Carter Family Memorial Music Center, which includes the Carter Family Fold, since her mother's death in 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Carter Family Fold continues to blossom under Rita Carter Forrester's leadership, growing into a truly one-of-a-kind musical venue that captures the heart and soul of the Commonwealth's musical heritage; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Carter Family Fold hereby be commended for its role in preserving the Carter Family legacy and in celebrating old-time country and bluegrass music; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to representatives of the Carter Family Fold as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for the cultural institution's history and its contributions to the Commonwealth.