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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 182

Offered February 2, 2022

Commending Kellean K. Gale.

Patron—March

WHEREAS, Kellean K. Gale, a dedicated local journalist, works to inform and educate the residents of Floyd County as owner, editor, and publisher of a community newspaper, the *Floyd Beacon*; and

WHEREAS, Kellean Gale grew up near Detroit, Michigan, and spent summers in her youth at her grandmother's farm in Paducah, Kentucky, gaining an appreciation for both urban and rural ways of life from a young age; and

WHEREAS, Kellean Gale cultivated a passion for exploring new cultures, languages, and traditions, which spurred an interest in history and anthropology; and

WHEREAS, after serving in the United States Navy, Kellean Gale began attending classes at St. Louis Community College- Florissant Valley, then transferred to the University of Missouri-St. Louis and graduated summa cum laude from the Pierre Laclède Honors College; and

WHEREAS, Kellean Gale worked as a professional tutor for a government program supporting middle and high schools in high-poverty areas and later served as a docent at the National Museum of Transportation in St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Kellean Gale returned to Paducah, Kentucky, to support a family member's campaign for county sheriff and was subsequently recognized as a Kentucky Colonel for her contributions to local government; and

WHEREAS, after settling in Virginia in 2011, Kellean Gale became an active member of the Floyd County community and sought opportunities to enhance the quality of life throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, Kellean Gale was inspired to create a local newsletter to help elevate voices in the community and published the first 12-page edition of the *Floyd Beacon* on September 1, 2020, with technical support from her husband, Michael; and

WHEREAS, since then, Kellean Gale has partnered with local contributors to provide comprehensive articles on current events, local government policies and decisions, and other stories of interest in Southwest Virginia through bimonthly editions of the *Floyd Beacon*; and

WHEREAS, in addition to fostering a strong sense of community Floyd County, Kellean Gale has also supported organizations, small businesses, and church congregations through the *Floyd Beacon*; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Kellean K. Gale for her achievements on behalf of Floyd County residents as owner, editor, and publisher of the *Floyd Beacon*; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Kellean K. Gale as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her contributions to local journalism in the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

HJ182