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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 203

Offered March 7, 2022

*Commending the Virginia Economic Developers Association.*

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Patron—Pillion

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WHEREAS, the Virginia Economic Developers Association, an organization dedicated to supporting the economic health of the Commonwealth, celebrates its 40th anniversary in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Economic Developers Association (VEDA) was established in 1982 by individuals with a shared professional interest in facilitating economic development across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, VEDA was created with the express purpose to increase the effectiveness of individuals in the practice of economic development in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, VEDA bolsters economic development in Virginia by encouraging cooperation, the exchange of information, and other professional development activities; and

WHEREAS, VEDA members include local, regional, and state economic development professionals, as well as public and private partners such as local government staff, utility and transportation industry representatives, elected officials, and professionals working in marketing, engineering, construction, development, higher education, real estate, consulting, finance, and more; and

WHEREAS, VEDA supports sound economic development policies, regional cooperation, and the maintenance and expansion of efforts by state, regional, and local governments and other interested organizations to foster the growth of employment business sectors that will increase job opportunities and improve the quality of life for all Virginians; and

WHEREAS, VEDA's mission is to be the voice in Virginia for shaping economic development public policy and to be a primary source of strong and effective education and networking for economic development professionals; and

WHEREAS, VEDA has grown from fewer than 100 members in 1982 to more than 500 members today and shows great promise to continue being a leader of economic development in the Commonwealth for many years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Virginia Economic Developers Association for their achievements over the last four decades in promoting professionalism in economic development across the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to David Manley, executive director of the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County and president and executive committee chair of the Virginia Economic Developers Association, and Connie Long, executive director of the Virginia Economic Developers Association, as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for the association's efforts to promote quality investment and create jobs in harmony with community goals in the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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