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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 228

Offered February 15, 2022

Commending Michael C. Maxey.

Patron—Rasoul

WHEREAS, Michael C. Maxey, the 11th president of Roanoke College, has ably served the college community in leadership roles for more than four decades; and

WHEREAS, Michael Maxey is a native of Bassett and earned degrees at Wake Forest University, the University of New Hampshire, and the Institute of Education Management at Harvard University; and

WHEREAS, Michael Maxey joined Roanoke College in 1985 and has become the longest-serving member of the institution's leadership team; he was selected as president of the college in 2007; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Michael Maxey oversaw the establishment of Roanoke College's Intellectual Inquiry curricula to help students develop real-world life skills, with a focus on ethical reasoning and oral and written presentation; he maintained and improved rigorous academic standards at the institution while adding crucial learning opportunities for all students; and

WHEREAS, under Michael Maxey's leadership, Roanoke College has earned recognition as a top producer of academic scholars, including Fulbright, Gilman, Goldwater, and Truman awardees; the institution also added new degree tracks in actuarial science, public health, engineering science, data science, education, creative writing, and communications; and

WHEREAS, Michael Maxey created a new position at Roanoke College, the Vice President for Community, Diversity and Inclusion, and implemented new ways to elevate diversity and inclusion, such as creating the Diversity and Inclusion Steering Committee, recognizing contributions of enslaved laborers on campus with an historic plaque, and establishing the Center for Studying Structures of Race; and

WHEREAS, Michael Maxey maintained great care of the Roanoke College's grounds and buildings, and he led new construction projects, renovations and, improvements to the institution's award-winning campus, including an initiative to plant a tree in honor of every former Roanoke College president; and

WHEREAS, Michael Maxey spearheaded the Roanoke Rising Campaign, which raised more than \$200 million, the largest such campaign in Roanoke College history; and

WHEREAS, Michael Maxey helped develop new athletics teams and clubs to attract a wide-array of students and oversaw completion of the flagship Cregger Center, a state-of-the-art athletics and events facility; and

WHEREAS, Michael Maxey has contributed his time and expertise to numerous professional and community organizations, including the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia, the Old Dominion Athletic Conference, the Roanoke Regional Chamber, Symphony, and Valley Business Council Boards, the Salem YMCA, College Lutheran Church, and the Lewis Gale Medical Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Michael Maxey's wife, Terri, a former financial aid administrator, has also been engaged with Roanoke College and community-at-large and is beloved by students and community members alike; and

WHEREAS, Michael Maxey is well known for his ability to build connections with students, and he strives to learn each new student's name, every year; he is also known for his passion for bow ties and has held instructional sessions for interested students prior to the annual President's Ball, once teaching more than 40 students to tie bow ties in a single session; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Michael C. Maxey on the occasion of his retirement as president of Roanoke College; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Michael C. Maxey as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his legacy of achievements in service to the Roanoke College community and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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