

# 2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

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## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 659

Offered April 1, 2025

*Commending Round the Mountain.*

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Patron—Pillion  
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WHEREAS, Round the Mountain, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving Appalachian arts and culture, celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2025; and

WHEREAS, established in 2005, Round the Mountain fosters a network that connects artisans across Southwest Virginia and provides support through business development, marketing, and capacity-building initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Round the Mountain has facilitated the growth of local artisans, providing a platform for their work to be showcased both regionally and nationally; and

WHEREAS, Round the Mountain has expanded access to education and training programs for artists and artisans, strengthening the creative economy; and

WHEREAS, Round the Mountain has developed partnerships with local, regional, and national organizations, which increased visibility for Southwest Virginia's artisans; and

WHEREAS, Round the Mountain contributed to the region's tourism by encouraging visitors to explore the arts, crafts, and cultural heritage of Southwest Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Round the Mountain established artisan galleries at the Southwest Virginia Cultural Center and Marketplace, formerly known as Heartwood, providing a permanent space for regional artisans to showcase and sell their work, as well as a cultural hub to bolster the local economy and cultural tourism; and

WHEREAS, over the last two decades, Round the Mountain has played a pivotal role by supporting artisans, fostering community growth and economic development, and helping create sustainable tourism initiatives that highlight the arts and cultural heritage of the region; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Round the Mountain hereby be commended on the occasion of its 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Round the Mountain as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for the organization's history and impact on the arts and culture of Southwest Virginia.

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