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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19

Offered January 9, 2002 Prefiled December 17, 2001

Designating September 11 as Virginia Police, Fire, and Rescue Services Memorial Day.

Patrons—Lingamfelter, Athey, Black, Carrico, Cosgrove, Dudley, Gear, Janis, Marrs, Marshall, D.W., Nutter, Rapp, Rust, Sears and Wright

Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2001, terrorists launched an inexcusable attack on the United States, causing great destruction and horrible human suffering in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the attack had a devastating effect in Virginia, home of the Pentagon and of many of the personnel, military and civilian, who served there; and

WHEREAS, many of Virginia's police, fire, and rescue personnel were involved in rescue and recovery efforts at the Pentagon, working long hours in grim conditions to rescue survivors, stabilize the building, and aid in recovery; and

WHEREAS, throughout the history of the Commonwealth, Virginia's police, fire, and rescue personnel have been prepared to respond to all manner of emergencies, and many have given their lives to protect their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is entirely appropriate that on the anniversary each year of the terrorist attacks on the United States, which led to the loss of so many police, fire, and rescue personnel in New York, that Virginia honor the members of its police, fire, and rescue services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby designate September 11, in 2002 and in each succeeding year, as Virginia Police, Fire, and Rescue Services Memorial Day; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the General Assembly urge all Virginians to take appropriate measures each September 11 to honor the memories of those police, fire, and rescue personnel who have given their lives to protect the lives of others.