SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 222

Commending Robert B. Richardson.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 28, 2008 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 5, 2008

WHEREAS, Robert B. Richardson, admired and respected in Virginia as a dedicated law-enforcement officer, retired on August 1, 2006, following 40 years of outstanding service to the citizens of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Robert "Bobby" Richardson began his distinguished public service career in Chesterfield County in 1966 and advanced through the ranks as an exemplary correctional officer, police officer, corporal, sergeant, lieutenant, shift commander, and criminal investigator, as well as served in various local and state government positions; and

WHEREAS, a knowledgeable and hardworking public servant, Robert Richardson served as the outstanding fire chief of the Virginia State Penitentiary for many years, established the state's first certified fire brigade at the penitentiary in 1988, and during his tenure, trained more than 500 employees to be volunteer firefighters; and

WHEREAS, for over 10 years, Robert Richardson directed and coordinated one of Virginia's largest public safety information booths, and he was instrumental in the development and promotion of Public Safety Day in the Richmond Metropolitan area in 2000 and 2001, the largest event of its kind in Virginia involving over 100 state and local agencies; and

WHEREAS, Robert Richardson has been an active member of the Virginia Fraternal Order of Police since 1971, was honored as State Member of the Year in 2002, and served as president of the John Marshall Lodge from 2003 to 2005; and

WHEREAS, committed to giving back to his community in any way he can, Robert Richardson continues to serve as a local election official in Chesterfield County after his retirement; and

WHEREAS, for over four decades, Robert Richardson has remained steadfast in preserving the safety and security of his fellow citizens and has dedicated his life and career to promoting good government and quality law enforcement in Virginia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend and congratulate Robert B. Richardson for his many years of outstanding public service to the citizens of the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robert B. Richardson as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for his many achievements and best wishes for a joyful and rewarding retirement.