

# 2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 504

*Commending Johnny S. Skeen, Sr.*

Agreed to by the Senate, April 8, 2014

WHEREAS, Johnny S. Skeen, Sr., an active leader and volunteer with emergency medical services in Russell County, has diligently served and safeguarded the people of the community for more than 53 years; and

WHEREAS, a native of Cleveland, Johnny Skeen graduated from Cleveland High School and served his country as a member of the United States Army during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, after his honorable discharge in 1963, Johnny Skeen returned to the Commonwealth and was a dedicated employee of American Electric Power company until his retirement in 1995; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of service to his fellow Russell County residents, Johnny Skeen became a charter member of Russell County Rescue Squad Unit 1 in April 1961, and in 1973, he became one of the original certified emergency medical technicians in the county; and

WHEREAS, in 1984, the Russell County Rescue Squad expanded to include two additional units in the area and later became three separate agencies; since 1992, Johnny Skeen has served as the operations captain of the Cleveland Lifesaving Crew; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Skeen leads by example, responding to calls and taking an active role in teaching and mentoring new members of the department; with his wise leadership, the department has maintained 24/7 coverage on a volunteer basis and has secured funding for high-quality equipment and training; and

WHEREAS, a statewide leader in the emergency medical field, Johnny Skeen served as a member of the board of governors for the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads (VAVRS) for 30 years, as an assistant vice president of VAVRS District 9 for 16 years, and as a junior advisor for VAVRS for 10 years; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, Johnny Skeen was honored by the Virginia Department of Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services with the Governor's Award for Outstanding EMS Administrator; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Johnny S. Skeen, Sr., hereby be commended for his more than 53 years of continuous volunteer service to the community and the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Johnny S. Skeen, Sr., as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for his tireless commitment to serving and safeguarding the people of Russell County.

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