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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 569

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled January 8, 2015

*Commending Doug King.*

Patrons—Campbell; Senators: Carrico and Smith

WHEREAS, Doug King, who had been Sheriff of Wythe County since 2005 and who first entered the law-enforcement field in 1983, retired on December 31, 2014, ending a public service career dedicated to keeping the people of his native county safe; and

WHEREAS, Doug King, a graduate of Fort Chiswell High School who studied economics at the University of Virginia, first started working as a jailer for Wythe County and soon became a patrol deputy; in 1993 he was named an investigator and in 1999 he was appointed chief deputy sheriff; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Doug King became Sheriff of Wythe County, completing the unexpired term of a retiring sheriff; he then successfully ran in a special election in 2005 and was re-elected sheriff in 2007 and 2011; and

WHEREAS, Doug King supervised law enforcement for the 29,300 people who live in Wythe County; two interstate highways cross in the county and bring many travelers to the area; the Sheriff's Office is deeply committed to the safety of all who live and travel through the county; and

WHEREAS, during Doug King's 29 years of public service, the Wythe County Sheriff's Office moved three times and currently is housed in the Law Enforcement Center at the county courthouse complex; and

WHEREAS, Doug King witnessed many changes during his tenure with the Wythe County Sheriff's Office, including improvements in equipment and extensive training of law-enforcement personnel; Wythe County closed its jail in 1998 when it became part of the New River Valley Jail Authority; and

WHEREAS, Doug King oversaw a staff of 65 people, including patrol officers, investigators, courthouse security personnel, and school resource and Drug Abuse Resistance Education officers; he also helped maintain a good working relationship with the Virginia State Police and the Wytheville Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Doug King gave much credit to the hard-working staff of the Wythe County Sheriff's Office—their integrity, commitment to treating people fairly, and their ability to police the community many of them call home; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend a dedicated public servant, Doug King, Sheriff of Wythe County, on the occasion of his retirement after 29 years in law enforcement; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Doug King as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for his many years of service dedicated to keeping the people of Wythe County safe.

INTRODUCED

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