

## 2015 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 857

*Commending Robert E. Phillips, Jr.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 20, 2015  
Agreed to by the Senate, February 25, 2015

WHEREAS, Robert E. Phillips, Jr., a dedicated civil servant in the City of Martinsville, retires as the city's emergency management coordinator and safety officer in April 2015, after 37 years of service; and

WHEREAS, Robert "Bobby" E. Phillips, Jr., joined the Martinsville Water Resources Department in 1978 as an electronics technician; he became the safety officer for the City of Martinsville in 1993 and the emergency management coordinator in 1995; and

WHEREAS, as safety officer, Bobby Phillips oversees the city departments' safety programs to ensure that they are effective and remain compliant with state and federal regulations, and he actively seeks grants to enhance public safety efforts; and

WHEREAS, as emergency management officer, Bobby Phillips plans for severe storms, major fires, chemical spills, or other emergencies; coordinates the City of Martinsville's response to emergencies; and helps the city recover after an emergency; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Phillips has witnessed and ably responded to numerous changes in the field throughout his 37-year career, including an increased emphasis on emergency management and planning after the September 11, 2001, attacks; and

WHEREAS, under Bobby Phillips' diligent leadership, the City of Martinsville installed a network of tornado warning sirens valued at nearly \$200,000, which was covered by a federal grant; and

WHEREAS, among his proudest accomplishments, Bobby Phillips has improved communication between city departments to better serve and safeguard members of the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Robert E. Phillips, Jr., on the occasion of his retirement as the City of Martinsville emergency management coordinator and safety officer; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robert E. Phillips, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his service and contributions to the City of Martinsville and the Commonwealth and best wishes for a happy retirement.

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