SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 118

Commending Roger L. Harris.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 25, 2015

WHEREAS, since 2012, Roger L. Harris, sheriff of Spotsylvania County, has distinguished himself as an active leader and a faithful servant to the community, implementing countless programs to protect and serve local residents better; and

WHEREAS, Roger Harris had previously worked as a member of the Fairfax County Police Department; beginning his career in law enforcement in 1969 as a patrol officer, he rose through the ranks to become a lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, a hardworking officer who was respected among his peers for his wealth of knowledge and experience in law enforcement, Roger Harris ran for and was elected sheriff of Spotsylvania County in 2011; and

WHEREAS, under Roger Harris' leadership, the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office achieved reaccreditation through the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission, ensuring the highest levels of professionalism and efficiency in service to the community; and

WHEREAS, under Roger Harris, the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office has promoted crime prevention and safety through Crime Prevention Day, drug take-back events, a neighborhood watch program serving more than 700 communities, and the business watch/loss prevention meeting; and

WHEREAS, facilitating strong relationships and trust between the department and members of the community, Roger Harris supported the Unity within the Community event and Sheriff Safety Day, an annual event where residents can learn more about the department; and

WHEREAS, Roger Harris has helped safeguard the youth of the community through the Arrive Alive driving simulator for teens, the Establish Emergency 101 educational program, and the Kid Safety Series; and

WHEREAS, during Roger Harris' tenure, the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office has sponsored numerous charitable drives and events, including Operation Blue Christmas, food drives, the Back to School drive, Special Olympics events, and Stuff the Cruiser, he established the Volunteer in Police Service program, which has facilitated more than 1,500 hours of volunteer service; and

WHEREAS, under Roger Harris, the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office served residents through its Autism Awareness Day and Project Life Saver, which monitors and safeguards more than 91 residents with Alzheimer's disease throughout the county; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Roger L. Harris hereby be commended for his numerous contributions to the Spotsylvania County community as sheriff; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Roger L. Harris as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for his diligent service to the residents of Spotsylvania County.