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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 175

Offered January 18, 2016

Commending Anthony Willie Artis.

Patron—Tyler

WHEREAS, Anthony Willie Artis, who has faithfully served the people of Emporia and Greensville County as a law-enforcement professional for 25 years, and who has made many valuable contributions to the community, retired as an officer of the Emporia Police Department on December 31, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a native of Franklin and one of 20 children, Anthony Artis graduated from Windsor High School and the P. D. Pruden Vocational Technical Center, now known as the Pruden Center for Industry & Technology; he earned a degree from Richard Bland College and also attended Crater Criminal Justice Training Academy; and

WHEREAS, before entering law enforcement, Anthony Artis studied carpentry under his uncle's tutelage; he also was a school bus driver, a first-class welder for Newport News Shipbuilding, and worked at a skating rink; and

WHEREAS, Anthony Artis has been a dedicated public servant for many years; his criminal justice career began in 1990 at the Greensville Correctional Center, and in 1997 he joined the Emporia Police Department, where he diligently served and protected the people of the Southside Virginia city; and

WHEREAS, during his career with the Emporia Police Department, Anthony Artis assumed many responsibilities; he was a field training officer, general instructor, and tactical baton instructor, and in 2003, he was promoted to sergeant; and

WHEREAS, Anthony Artis has received accolades as a law-enforcement professional, including several awards for heroic acts and for fostering good relations between the Emporia Police Department and the public; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Anthony Artis successfully completed a police motorcycle operator training program; he has always loved being around vehicles—earlier in his career, he was a commercial bus driver and a truck driver; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Anthony Artis parlayed his love of driving into a successful business, when he followed his lifelong dream and started Right Road Express, Inc.; the company, which has been recognized for its excellent operating performance, recently celebrated its 10th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Anthony Artis belongs to the Fraternal Order of Police, the Virginia Motorcoach Association, and the United Motorcoach Association, and he served as the road captain for the All About Family Motorcycle Club; and

WHEREAS, Anthony Artis and his wife, Sylvia, have six children; he is a man of deep-rooted faith and belongs to Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, where he serves as minister of music, and he directs the 75th District Choir, founded by Delegate Roslyn Tyler; he also founded the A.W.A. Ensemble and belongs to two gospel choirs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Anthony Willie Artis on the occasion of his retirement from the Emporia Police Department; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Anthony Willie Artis as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and congratulations for his many years of dedicated service and his numerous contributions to the community.

INTRODUCED

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