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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 139

Offered January 18, 2018

Celebrating the life of Special Agent Michael T. Walter.

Patrons—Ware, Adams, D.M., Cole, Delaney, Heretick, Hope, Krizek, Landes, LaRock, Lindsey, Mullin, Plum, Rasoul, Simon, Thomas, Turpin, Watts and Wright; Senators: Barker, Black, Carrico, Chafin, Chase, Cosgrove, Dance, Deeds, DeSteph, Dunnivant, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Hanger, Howell, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Mason, McClellan, McDougale, McPike, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Peake, Petersen, Reeves, Ruff, Saslaw, Spruill, Stanley, Stuart, Sturtevant, Suetterlein, Surovell, Vogel, Wagner and Wexton

WHEREAS, it is written that "no greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"; and

WHEREAS, Virginia State Police Special Agent Michael T. Walter laid down his life for the communities he served when he died on May 27, 2017, of a gunshot wound incurred the day before while endeavoring to preserve law and order in a neighborhood of the City of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Michael T. Walter graduated from the Virginia State Police Academy as a member of the 98th Basic Session on May 21, 1999, and upon graduation was assigned to Area 48 in the Fairfax Division; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Trooper Walter transferred to Area 6 in the Richmond Division, and in 2006, he joined the Virginia State Police Academy staff as a Canine Instructor; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, he was promoted to the rank of special agent and assigned to the Drug Enforcement Section of the Bureau of Criminal Investigation's Richmond Field Office; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Walter worked with local, state, and federal law-enforcement agencies and officers throughout the Richmond Division, gathering criminal intelligence on gang-related activity and investigating illegal drug activity; and

WHEREAS, while working with a Richmond police officer in the City's Mosby Court public housing complex, Special Agent Walter approached two male subjects in a vehicle and, during the course of the consensual encounter and conversation, was shot and killed by one of the male subjects, who then fled the scene on foot; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Walter was a man of singular virtue and integrity, who demonstrated an unwavering commitment to serving and protecting the people of the Commonwealth through his capacity as one of "Virginia's Finest"; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Powhatan County, Special Agent Walter was known by many within his community for his valiant, selfless labors on behalf of the well-being of the rising generation; and

WHEREAS, preeminent among Special Agent Walter's contributions to Powhatan was his establishment of Blackhawk Gym to enhance the lives, character, and health of local youth; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Walter proudly served his nation from 1989 to 1994 as a decorated member of the United States Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Walter spent his own youth in New Jersey and began his law-enforcement career as a police officer with the Virginia Division of Capitol Police; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Walter will be fondly remembered and forever missed by his wife, Jaime; their children, Austin, Mason, and Addison; his parents, Robert and Lorraine Walter; his brother, Matthew Walter; and numerous other family members, friends, and public safety colleagues throughout the Commonwealth and the entire country; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of a courageous and revered public safety professional, Special Agent Michael T. Walter; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Special Agent Michael T. Walter as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory, sympathy with his family's bereavement, and gratitude for his many years of selfless service to the citizenry of the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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