

2018 SESSION

INTRODUCED

18103942D

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 174

Offered January 30, 2018

Commending Matthew Tobia.

Patron—Reid

WHEREAS, Matthew Tobia, a devoted member of the Loudoun County Department of Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Management, earned the prestigious Chief Fire Officer certification from the Commission on Professional Credentialing in 2017; and

WHEREAS, a 28-year veteran of emergency services, Matthew Tobia earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and attended the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer program; and

WHEREAS, since 2014, Matthew Tobia has served as an assistant chief with the Loudoun County Department of Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Management; he previously worked as a firefighter, paramedic, battalion chief, and public information officer with Anne Arundel County Fire Department in Baltimore, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, to receive his Chief Fire Officer certification, Matthew Tobia underwent a rigorous application process that included a peer-reviewed assessment of his education, experience, technical competencies, professional development, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, by earning his credentials, Matthew Tobia joins a select group of just 1,200 certified Chief Fire Officers worldwide; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his service with Loudoun County, Matthew Tobia has also held adjunct teaching positions with the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy and Harrisburg Area Community College, served as a chair with the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and acted as a contributing columnist and editor for *FireRescue* magazine; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Tobia has demonstrated a commitment to community service by serving in leadership positions with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, the Mid-Atlantic Burn Camp, and the American Trauma Society's Maryland division; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Tobia's dedication to professional excellence and protecting the safety of the citizens of Loudoun County has won him the abiding respect of both his fellow first responders and the people he serves; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Matthew Tobia on earning certification as a Chief Fire Officer; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Matthew Tobia as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his impressive professional achievements and distinguished service to the residents of Loudoun County.

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