HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 535

Commending C.W. Thomas.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 2018 Agreed to by the Senate, March 9, 2018

WHEREAS, C.W. Thomas, a respected leader and emergency dispatcher who served as director of the Franklin County Emergency Communications Center, retired on January 31, 2018, following a distinguished career; and

WHEREAS, C.W. Thomas studied political science at Virginia Western Community College and church ministries at Liberty University; he began his career as an emergency dispatcher for Franklin County in 1978; and

WHEREAS, during his four decades as a dispatcher, C.W. Thomas watched emergency response technology evolve from pens and paper to typewriters and state-of-the-art computer systems; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, C.W. Thomas was promoted to supervisor at the Franklin County Emergency Center; he later served as a manager before becoming the director of the communications center; and

WHEREAS, known for his cool head and strong leadership, C.W. Thomas took thousands of calls during his career with Franklin County and brought police, emergency medical services, and firefighters to the aid of countless people in need; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his work as an emergency dispatcher, C.W. Thomas is also an ordained minister and Sunday school teacher and holds a master's degree in religious education from Liberty University Baptist Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, in his retirement, C.W. Thomas plans to travel and spend time with family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend C.W. Thomas on his 40 years of exemplary service as an emergency dispatcher in Franklin County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to C.W. Thomas as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his impressive career accomplishments and best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.