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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 697**

Offered January 10, 2019

*Designating the first full week of May, in 2019 and in each succeeding year, as Correctional Officers' Week in Virginia.*

Patrons—Kory, Tyler and Ward

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, correctional officers are responsible for supervising offenders serving sentences in federal, state, or local correctional facilities; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers promote the safety of all Virginians by supervising offender conduct and behavior to avoid conflicts and escapes; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers are dedicated to promoting positive behaviors and outcomes, which improve offenders' post-release success; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers are crucial to the statewide re-entry initiative and reducing recidivism, as they play a critical role in preparing offenders for successful re-entry into their communities after release; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers strive to maintain a safe working and living environment in correctional facilities throughout the Commonwealth, often in the face of significant challenges and dangers; and

WHEREAS, Correctional Officers' Week offers an opportunity to acknowledge and honor Virginia's correctional officers for the vital contributions and sacrifices they make to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate the first full week of May, in 2019 and in each succeeding year, as Correctional Officers' Week in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the Virginia Department of Corrections so that members of the Department may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this week on the General Assembly's website.

INTRODUCED

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