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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 810

Offered February 5, 2019

*Commending Debbie Ritter.*

Patrons—Leftwich; Senator: Cosgrove

WHEREAS, Debbie Ritter, a longtime public servant and an active civic leader in Chesapeake, was selected as the 2018 Woman of the Year by the Women's Division Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce Chesapeake; and

WHEREAS, born in Rhode Island, Debbie Ritter grew up in a military family and learned the importance of community service at a young age; she met her husband, Ron, while attending the University of Connecticut, and the couple later settled in Chesapeake, where they raised their three daughters, Courtney, Caroline, and Hilary; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Ritter encouraged responsible growth in the city as a member of the Chesapeake Planning Commission from 1994 to 1997, then was elected to the Chesapeake City Council to serve from 1998 to 2006 and 2008 to the present; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the Chesapeake City Council, Debbie Ritter focused on initiatives to support financial stability, job creation, high-quality education, and improved transportation corridors; and

WHEREAS, among her proudest achievements, Debbie Ritter oversaw the creation of the Dismal Swamp Canal Trail; new recreational facilities in the city's parks; and the city call center, which takes 100,000 calls from residents each year; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Ritter has offered her wise leadership to numerous other civic and service organizations in Hampton Roads, inspiring and motivating countless other women to follow her example and participate in leadership opportunities throughout the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Debbie Ritter on her selection as the 2018 Woman of the Year by the Women's Division Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce Chesapeake; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Debbie Ritter as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her personal and professional achievements in service to the Chesapeake community.

INTRODUCED

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