

2019 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 387

Commending Ronald D. Oakes.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 22, 2019

WHEREAS, Ronald D. Oakes began his service to the Commonwealth of Virginia with the Virginia State Police beginning in 1969; and

WHEREAS, Ronald D. Oakes served with honor and distinction with the Virginia State Police starting as a Trooper and ultimately achieving the rank of Master Trooper; and

WHEREAS, Ronald D. Oakes exhibited his bravery when he was seriously wounded in the line of duty in Wise County on February 6, 1972, after being shot, but after a lengthy recovery returned to service; and

WHEREAS, Ronald D. Oakes retired from the Virginia State Police after serving for 26 years; and

WHEREAS, Ronald D. Oakes continued his service to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia when he was elected Sheriff of Wise County and the City of Norton in 1995 and reelected five successive times making him the longest serving Sheriff in the history of Wise County and the City of Norton; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Oakes fulfilled his promises to the voters by leading the fight in the battle against drugs, promoting community policing by beginning a Neighborhood Watch program throughout communities in Wise County and Norton, and ensuring that the Wise County Sheriff's Office would serve the public effectively and be well-trained; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, the leadership of Sheriff Oakes enabled the Wise County Sheriff's Office to become the 13th law-enforcement agency and the fifth sheriff's office in Virginia to be accredited by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission and the first such agency in far Southwest Virginia to receive accreditation and to receive reaccreditation in 2006, 2010, 2014, and more recently in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Oakes has served the Commonwealth of Virginia with honor and distinction for over 50 years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Ronald D. Oakes hereby be commended for over 50 years of service to the Commonwealth of Virginia as an officer with the Virginia State Police and as Sheriff of Wise County and the City of Norton; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Ronald D. Oakes as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his contributions and service to the citizens of Wise County and the City of Norton and to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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