

2020 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 24

Commending the Honorable Richard Preston Bell.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 27, 2020

WHEREAS, the Honorable Richard Preston Bell retired from public office in January 2020 after ably representing the residents of the 20th District in the Virginia House of Delegates for 10 years; and

WHEREAS, a native of Staunton, Richard "Dickie" Preston Bell attended Blue Ridge Community College, James Madison University, and Old Dominion University and served his country as a hospital corpsman in the United States Navy from 1967 to 1973; and

WHEREAS, Dickie Bell touched the lives of countless young people through his work as a high school special education teacher and coach and volunteered his time and leadership on numerous local boards and commissions, as well as the Staunton City Council from 1996 to 2009; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of further service to his community and the Commonwealth, Dickie Bell ran for and was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates and represented parts of the Shenandoah Valley, including his home city of Staunton, for five terms; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as a state lawmaker, Dickie Bell introduced and supported many important pieces of legislation to benefit all Virginians, focusing on education reform, mental health initiatives, and programs to protect children; and

WHEREAS, Dickie Bell offered his expertise to several standing committees, including the House Committee on Education, where his background as a teacher gave him unique insights into the issues affecting the Commonwealth's schools; and

WHEREAS, Dickie Bell was admired as a friend, mentor, and confidant to many of his fellow public servants and earned a reputation as a statesman who cared deeply for his constituents; and

WHEREAS, after his well-earned retirement, Dickie Bell plans to spend more time with his beloved family and will seek new opportunities to serve and strengthen his community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Honorable Richard Preston Bell hereby be commended for his 10 years of service to the Commonwealth as a state legislator; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Honorable Richard Preston Bell as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his achievements on behalf of the residents of the Shenandoah Valley.

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