

## 2021 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 608

Offered January 21, 2021

*Commending Robert Sykes.*

Patron—Tyler

WHEREAS, for much of his 50-year career, Robert Sykes has worked to reduce recidivism by enhancing the mental and emotional health of incarcerated individuals as a counselor at multiple correctional facilities; and

WHEREAS, Robert Sykes grew up in Emporia, where he graduated from Edward W. Wyatt High School in 1968; he worked the night shift as a ward aide at Central State Hospital while attending Virginia State University; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, Robert Sykes received a commission as a second lieutenant in the United States Army and pursued a master's degree in education; and

WHEREAS, Robert Sykes began his career in corrections at the Hanover School for Boys and subsequently served at Pinecrest Learning Center, Powhatan Correctional Center, Deerfield Correctional Center, and Brunswick Correctional Center; and

WHEREAS, Robert Sykes served as a teacher with the Rehabilitative School Authority, now the Department of Correctional Education, and became a counselor in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Robert Sykes joined Greenville Correctional Center, where he spent the majority of his career, when it opened in 1989; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Robert Sykes was guided by his deep faith to serve others and set an example for colleagues through his kindness, positivity, and work ethic; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Robert Sykes for more than 50 years of service to the Virginia correctional system; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robert Sykes as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his dedication and commitment to the betterment of the Commonwealth.

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