

## 2021 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 239

Offered January 20, 2021

*Expressing the sense of the House of Delegates in affirming its support and appreciation for the service and sacrifice of law-enforcement officers in the Commonwealth.*

Patron—Miyares

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, law-enforcement officers in Virginia put their lives on the line every day to protect and defend the residents of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the House of Delegates relies upon and is indebted to the Capitol Police, the Virginia State Police, and local police for maintaining order and security in and around the Capitol as the legislature carries out the business of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, citizens of the Commonwealth are reliant on law enforcement for maintaining safety and order within Virginia's communities; and

WHEREAS, police departments in Virginia and around the country are losing law-enforcement personnel due to low morale; and

WHEREAS, acquiescing to calls to defund police departments will make localities and the Commonwealth as a whole less safe and less secure; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Commonwealth's leadership to assist law enforcement in establishing, fostering, and earning bonds of trust within Virginia's communities and to guard the brave men and women who protect Virginia's communities against stereotypes that diminish the selfless service offered by law-enforcement officers every day in the line of duty; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the House of Delegates affirm its support and appreciation for the service and sacrifice of law-enforcement officers in the Commonwealth. In affirming its support, the House of Delegates acknowledges the need for a comprehensive strategy in addressing public safety that goes beyond law enforcement and incarceration and hereby commits to a holistic approach to justice in coordination with police, community leaders, community members, human services agencies, and other stakeholders; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the House of Delegates support the funding of law-enforcement agencies at appropriate levels consistent with the goal of maintaining safe and secure communities throughout the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Superintendent of the Virginia State Police, the Chief of the Division of Capitol Police, the Virginia Sheriffs' Association, the Virginia State Police Association, and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police so that they may be apprised of the sense of the House of Delegates in this matter.

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