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## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 241

Offered January 21, 2021

*Commending Anne M. Mitchell.*

Patron—Hodges

WHEREAS, Anne M. Mitchell, director of the King William County Department of Social Services and a longtime advocate on behalf of children, adults, and families of the Commonwealth, retired on January 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, over a career spanning nearly a half-century, Anne Mitchell has had an immeasurable impact on countless lives while faithfully serving the Commonwealth and exemplifying the best qualities of a social services professional; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Radford College, Anne Mitchell's distinguished career began with the City of Richmond Department of Social Services, where she worked from 1971 to 1979 as a family services worker and facilitated a Model Cities program in Church Hill; and

WHEREAS, in the 1980s, Anne Mitchell worked with the King and Queen County Department of Social Services in a foster care prevention program known as The Family Center and as a substitute teacher with King and Queen County Public Schools and King William County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, Anne Mitchell took a joint position as a child protective services worker for the Counties of King William and King and Queen and was promoted to social work supervisor for the Department of Social Services in both counties three years later; and

WHEREAS, shortly after her promotion, Anne Mitchell directed her efforts exclusively to the King William County Department of Social Services, serving as its social work supervisor from 1992 to 2010; and

WHEREAS, in her role as social work supervisor, Anne Mitchell oversaw participation in numerous pilot programs administered by the Virginia Department of Social Services; she supported families by developing and implementing parenting classes and fostered generations of future social workers by actively mentoring students from universities throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Anne Mitchell was appointed director of the King William County Department of Social Services on September 1, 2010; during her tenure, she improved the department's ability to efficiently and effectively serve its clientele through staff training, new technology, and innovative programming; and

WHEREAS, Anne Mitchell excelled at cultivating relationships with local, regional, and state officials; her staff; and the citizens she served; her efforts led to various community organizations and initiatives, including the Upper Middle Peninsula Prisoner Reentry Council, the King William Outreach Program, the King William Fatherhood Initiative, the King William Children First Lions Club, the King William Toys for Tots program, and the King William County Feeding Program; and

WHEREAS, Anne Mitchell frequently testified before subcommittees of the General Assembly, helping to advance legislation that would bolster the efforts of social services departments throughout the Commonwealth, including salary increases for social work professionals and funding to support continued education for foster children; and

WHEREAS, Anne Mitchell served on various professional organizations in support of her work, including the Virginia Alliance of Social Work Practitioners, which she served as president; the Virginia League of Social Services Executives; the Middle Peninsula Northern Neck Community Services Board; and the Quin Rivers Community Action Agency Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, widely recognized for her social services expertise, Anne Mitchell served on both Governor Timothy M. Kaine's Commission on Sexual Violence and Delegate Keith Hodges' opioid addiction task force for Middle Peninsula Northern Neck; and

WHEREAS, Anne Mitchell has been recognized by various organizations and agencies, including the State Board of Social Services, for her tireless efforts on behalf of the families she serves and her outstanding contributions to the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Anne M. Mitchell, director of the King William County Department of Social Services, hereby be commended on the occasion of her retirement; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Anne M. Mitchell as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for her service to the Commonwealth and its citizens.

INTRODUCED

HR241