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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 776

Offered February 20, 2023

Commending Annie Walker.

Patrons—Murphy, Guzman, Hope, Lopez, Maldonado, Rasoul, Seibold, Simonds, Sullivan, Ware and Watts; Senators: Barker, Boysko, Ebbin, Favola, Hanger, Howell, Reeves, Spruill and Vogel

WHEREAS, Annie Walker, a retired United States Army veteran, has supported her fellow veterans in the Commonwealth for over two decades, including 17 years as a deputy commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services; and

WHEREAS, over the course of her distinguished military career, Annie Walker served as a fire control instrument repairer, Pershing missile electronics material specialist, multiple launch rocket systems repairer, and a unit supply specialist; her last duty assignment was at Fort Lee as a drill sergeant and she completed her military career in 1997 as the director for the Instructor Development Course at the United States Army Quartermaster Center and School; and

WHEREAS, among her many awards and accolades, Annie Walker has received the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Good Conduct Award, the Overseas Service Ribbon, and the Distinguished Instructor Award; and

WHEREAS, Annie Walker gained experience in education and social services in Petersburg, then began working for the Commonwealth as an education specialist with the Virginia State Approving Agency (SAA) for Veterans Education and Training (GI Bill) under the Virginia Department of Education; the SAA subsequently moved to the Department of Veterans Services in 2004; and

WHEREAS, as a deputy commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services, Annie Walker provides general counsel and guidance to the commissioner on agency strategy and administration and connects veterans and their families to federal and state benefits, recognition, and quality care; and

WHEREAS, Annie Walker oversees numerous programs, including Benefits, Virginia Veterans and Family Support, the Veterans Education, and the Transition & Employment (VETE) directorate, which includes the SAA, the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program, the Virginia Values Veterans Employment (V3) Program, the V3 Transition Program, the Military Medics and Corpsmen Program, the Virginia Women Veterans Program, and the Military Spouse Liaison; and

WHEREAS, at the national level, Annie Walker served as a past president of the National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA), a past member of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) Veterans Advisory Council on Education, and a past member of the DVA/NASAA Joint Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, Annie Walker has touched countless lives and helped make the Commonwealth one of the best places for veterans to live, work, and thrive; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Annie Walker for her service as a deputy commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Annie Walker as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her contributions to the men and women who have served and sacrificed in defense of the nation.

INTRODUCED

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