HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 491

Commending Jackie Martin.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 24, 2023

WHEREAS, Jackie Martin, a respected law-enforcement officer, will retire as the chief of the Pearisburg Police Department in April 2023; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Martin dedicated 39 years of his professional career to law enforcement and began his career as a police officer in Roanoke; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Martin held eight different positions within the Pearisburg Police Department and has served as chief for 24 years; and

WHEREAS, in numerous leadership roles, Jackie Martin has had great success on behalf of the Pearisburg Police Department; he expanded the department from five to eight officers, recruited new law-enforcement hires, and secured both approval and funding for station upgrades in addition to a new building; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Martin is celebrated for always giving his best to each of his many endeavors; and

WHEREAS, as a police officer, Jackie Martin believes strongly that his ability to reach out to others has always had a positive and effective impact, and he places a high emphasis on community policing; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Jackie Martin added the Pearisburg Police Department to National Night Out, a national program that promotes police-community partnerships to make neighborhoods safe and caring places to live; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Martin has been instrumental in raising awareness of and procuring funds for FOCUS (Focus on Community Utilizing Services) through events such as the Pearisburg Police Department's annual Community Pool Party and Community Kids Christmas program; and

WHEREAS, under Jackie Martin's leadership, the Pearisburg Police Department has worked closely with the Downtown Merchants Association on special programs such as the Downtown Trick-or-Treat Trail and, one of his personal favorites, the Scarecrow Festival; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Martin has attended every Pearisburg Festival in the Park program since its inception 37 years ago; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Martin has been active with and has served in numerous leadership roles for the New River Criminal Justice Training Academy; he has been an involved member of other boards and programs, such as the New River Community College Advisory Board of the Police Science Curriculum; and

WHEREAS, following in his grandfather's footsteps, Jackie Martin is also a lifetime volunteer member of the Pearisburg Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Martin and his loving wife, Babette, have been married for 35 years and have three wonderful adult children, Cassie, Cole, and Conner; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Martin has been a committed advocate for the Town of Pearisburg, and his tireless and selfless work has left a distinct and lasting impact on the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Jackie Martin hereby be commended for his extensive law-enforcement career and service to the Town of Pearisburg on the occasion of his retirement; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jackie Martin as an expression of the House of Delegates' gratitude for his commitment to the safety and protection of the Pearisburg community and the citizens of the Commonwealth.