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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 372

Offered March 3, 1994

Commending G. Woody Stafford.

Patrons—Cox, Albo, Baker, Behm, Cantor, Christian, Connally, Crouch, Deeds, Dudley, Fisher, Griffith, Hamilton, Ingram, Kilgore, Marshall, McDonnell, Newman, Reid, Ruff, Sherwood, Thomas, Wagner, Watkins, Way and Wilkins; Senator: Martin

Unanimous consent to introduce

WHEREAS, G. Woody Stafford, Virginia's longest-serving Commonwealth's Attorney, retired as Commonwealth's Attorney for Colonial Heights on December 31, 1993; and

WHEREAS, a native of Colonial Heights, Woody Stafford joined the Virginia National Guard in 1939, then served with the U.S. Army during World War II, seeing action in the Battle of the Bulge, crossing the Bridge at Remagen, and winning a battlefield commission as a second lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, as a result of a land mine in Germany in 1945, Woody Stafford lost the sight in one eye and, despite numerous operations on the other eye, became totally blind; and

WHEREAS, after his discharge from the army in 1947, Woody Stafford attended the University of Virginia, where he earned his undergraduate and law degrees; and

WHEREAS, Woody Stafford practiced law in Colonial Heights until 1961, when he was elected Commonwealth's Attorney, a position he held with great distinction for 32 years; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Petersburg Bar and the Chesterfield-Colonial Heights Bar, Woody Stafford has been active in the community, serving at various times on the Chamber of Commerce, as a member of the school board, as a charter member and president of the Rotary Club, and as a member of the committee that recommended the city council form of government for Colonial Heights; and

WHEREAS, a man of consummate skill, steadfast integrity, and enduring popularity, Woody Stafford served the citizens of Colonial Heights for over three decades with hard work, compassion, and professionalism; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend a uniquely valuable public servant, G. Woody Stafford; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the General Assembly join with the countless colleagues, friends, and admirers of Woody Stafford in wishing him a long, joyous, and fulfilling retirement; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to G. Woody Stafford as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for his career of service to the citizens of Colonial Heights and the Commonwealth.