

# 1997 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 644

Offered January 20, 1997

*Establishing Law Enforcement Month.*

Patrons—Moore, Abbitt, Armstrong, Behm, Cooper, Cranwell, Croshaw, Deeds, Dickinson, Jackson, Kilgore, Lovelace, Moran, Moss, Nelms, Phillips, Puller, Reid, Rhodes, Stump, Tate and Thomas; Senator: Reynolds

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia has been blessed with professional law-enforcement officers, who by temperament, training and dedication are fully prepared to meet the challenges of our changing social conditions; and

WHEREAS, the highly qualified men and women who serve as law-enforcement officers in the Commonwealth continue to courageously and conscientiously maintain a delicate balance between the liberty of the individual and a high degree of social protection; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable George F. Allen and the members of the General Assembly have acted on legislation to protect victims' rights, allow the Commonwealth the right of appeal, crack down on serious criminal activity, and abolish parole, thereby giving Virginia's law-enforcement system the tools needed to effectively enforce the laws and thus defend and protect the people of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, since 1830, more than 285 law-enforcement officers of the Commonwealth have made the supreme sacrifice of giving their lives in the line of duty; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the month of May be recognized as "Virginia Law Enforcement Month" in the Commonwealth, a time for citizens, organizations and local governments to hold ceremonies or other activities to recognize the role and functions of their respective law-enforcement agencies; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the United States and Virginia flags be flown at half mast on May 15, National Peace Officers' Memorial Day, in memory of those who have given their lives in the line of duty and in honor of those who continue to serve; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Garth L. Wheeler, President of the Virginia State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police, as an expression of the gratitude of the General Assembly and the people of Virginia.

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