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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 156

Offered January 19, 2006

*Commending Julian H. Taliaferro.*

Patrons—Deeds; Delegate: Toscano

WHEREAS, Julian H. Taliaferro retired as chief of the Charlottesville Fire Department after 33 years of outstanding service on July 1, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Julian Taliaferro came to the Charlottesville Fire Department on July 1, 1962 and was appointed as the assistant superintendent and training officer on February 1, 1970; and

WHEREAS, on September 1, 1971, Julian Taliaferro was appointed to the office of fire chief, and at the time was the youngest fire chief in the United States; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to providing the most effective and efficient fire services possible, Chief Taliaferro was active in numerous statewide civic and professional organizations, serving as the president of the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association and the Virginia State Firefighter's Association, as a charter member and chairman of the Virginia Fire Services Council, as a member and vice chairman of the Virginia Fire Services Board, and as a member of the Virginia Wireless E-911 Services Board; and

WHEREAS, Chief Taliaferro served as chairman of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Fire Prevention Council; as the president of the Southeastern Division of the IAFC, the IAFC Human Relations Committee, and the IAFC Board of Directors; and as the IAFC treasurer and member of the IAFC Foundation; and

WHEREAS, committed to improving the quality of life for all his neighbors, Chief Taliaferro served as treasurer of the Jefferson County Firefighters Association and as a member of the Charlottesville-Albemarle Emergency Communications Center Management Board, as well as the Charlottesville Community Scholarship Board; and

WHEREAS, Chief Taliaferro has received numerous awards for his benevolent service, including the IAFC award for service to fire chiefs worldwide; and

WHEREAS, prior to his career in public service, Chief Taliaferro served his country in the United States Army from 1966 to 1968, receiving the Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his actions during the Tet offensive in the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, Chief Taliaferro generously gives his time and many talents to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Districts 8 and 13, the American Legion Post #74, and numerous other fraternal and local organizations that sponsor charitable events and community programs to help residents in need in the Charlottesville area; and

WHEREAS, Chief Taliaferro has been an exemplary fire chief, and his numerous contributions to public safety on a local, state, and national level serve as a model of leadership for all aspiring fire/rescue officers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend and congratulate Fire Chief Julian H. Taliaferro on the occasion of his retirement from the Charlottesville Fire Department; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Chief Julian H. Taliaferro as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for his 45 years of commitment to the citizens of the Commonwealth and best wishes for a long and joyful retirement.

INTRODUCED

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