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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 491

Offered March 8, 2010

Commending Mark Kane.

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Patrons—Filler-Corn, Albo, Bulova, Englin, Herring, Hugo, Keam, Kory, LeMunyon, Plum, Rust, Scott, J.M., Surovell and Watts

WHEREAS, Mark Kane, an exemplary battalion chief with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, will retire after 34 years of meritorious service; and

WHEREAS, born and raised in Falls Church, Mark Kane attended Bishop O'Connell High School and, while a student, decided to volunteer at his local fire department and found his life calling; and

WHEREAS, Mark Kane attended college at the University of Virginia but decided to return to the work he loved and began his service with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department in 1976; and

WHEREAS, during a long and successful career, Mark Kane served at five different stations and the department's training academy before reaching the rank of battalion chief, serving out of Bailey's Crossroads, Tysons Corner, Merrifield, and Franconia stations; and

WHEREAS, Mark Kane finished his degree at George Mason University and in 1997 was promoted to battalion chief and was placed in charge of Battalion 4; he later moved to Battalion 5 and for the last three years has led Battalion 3; and

WHEREAS, Mark Kane has spent more than half of his life ensuring the safety and security of the residents of Fairfax County and has delivered babies, responded to building collapses, and dealt with the aftermath of tornadoes and Hurricane Isabel; and

WHEREAS, on September 12, 2001, Mark Kane and his battalion were on the roof of the still smoldering Pentagon when he received word that President George W. Bush was arriving; he and fellow first responders draped a massive American flag over the side of the building, creating an image of resilience that resonated around the world; and

WHEREAS, Mark Kane has served his fellow citizens with integrity, honor, and dedication; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Mark Kane for his service to Fairfax County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Mark Kane as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude and admiration for his commitment to public safety.