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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 516

Offered February 21, 2011

Commending Daniel M. Chichester.

Patrons—Stuart, Barker, Blevins, Colgan, Deeds, Edwards, Hanger, Herring, Houck, Howell, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Marsh, Martin, McDougle, McEachin, McWaters, Miller, J.C., Miller, Y.B., Newman, Norment, Northam, Obenshain, Petersen, Puckett, Puller, Quayle, Reynolds, Ruff, Saslaw, Smith, Stanley, Stosch, Ticer, Vogel, Wagner, Wampler, Watkins and Whipple; Delegates: Cole and Howell, W.J.

WHEREAS, Daniel M. Chichester, the Commonwealth's Attorney for Stafford County, who has served local residents with great faithfulness for 40 years, will retire on December 31, 2011; and

WHEREAS, a native of Stafford County, Daniel Chichester attended Stafford County Public Schools and graduated first in his class from the Augusta Military Academy before receiving a bachelor's degree and law degree from the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, a United States Army veteran, Daniel Chichester proudly served his country in Vietnam and Cambodia, where he attained the rank of captain and received many awards and decorations, including the Bronze Star; and

WHEREAS, upon his return to Stafford County, Daniel Chichester was elected Commonwealth's Attorney and first took office in 1971, when Stafford County had 20,000 residents and the Commonwealth's Attorney's office consisted of a part-time Commonwealth's Attorney and a paralegal; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, the Commonwealth's Attorney position became full-time, and Daniel Chichester dedicated himself to a public service career prosecuting criminal offenses in Stafford County; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the population of Stafford County steadily increased, necessitating the hiring of more attorneys and staff to the Commonwealth's Attorney's office to deal with the increased workload; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to making Stafford County a safe place in which to live and work, Daniel Chichester now oversees an office of more than 20 employees that serves nearly 130,000 residents; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected attorney, Daniel Chichester served as the president of the Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys and chair of the Commonwealth's Attorneys' Training and Services Council; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Chichester has contributed his insight and expertise to numerous organizations over the years, including the Board of Governors of the Criminal Law Section of the Virginia State Bar and the Board of Directors of the National District Attorneys Association; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Chichester was appointed by Governor George Allen in 1994 to the Commission on Parole Abolition and Sentencing Reform; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Chichester has earned numerous state and national honors during the course of his illustrious career, including the Robert F. Horan, Jr., Outstanding Service Award and the Rappahannock Area Fraternal Order of Police Man of the Year award; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Chichester has been honored to serve the residents of Stafford County and looks forward to spending time with his family on their beef cattle farm and pursuing his woodworking hobby; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Daniel Chichester on the occasion of his retirement as Commonwealth's Attorney of Stafford County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Daniel Chichester for his many years of dedicated service to the citizens of Stafford County and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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