

12103907D

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 223

Offered January 19, 2012

Commending John R. Newhart.

Patrons—Cosgrove, James, Joannou, Jones, Knight, and Spruill

WHEREAS, John R. Newhart, sheriff of the City of Chesapeake, has devoted his entire career to protecting the public; when the voters elected him in 1969, he had the distinction of being the youngest person in Virginia named sheriff; and

WHEREAS, John R. Newhart graduated from Oscar F. Smith High School and began his professional law-enforcement career in 1958 as an investigator with the United States Army Military Police in Germany; he joined the Chesapeake Police Department in 1964 as a motorcycle officer; and

WHEREAS, in his 42 years as sheriff, John Newhart has created many programs and initiatives to help those who are incarcerated or are victims of crime, including an inmate work release effort, an Elderly and Indigent Victims of Crime program, the Chesapeake Jail Ministry, and other innovative efforts; and

WHEREAS, during Sheriff John Newhart's tenure, Chesapeake has become one of Virginia's foremost cities, and he has overseen a corresponding increase in the number of law-enforcement officers under his supervision as well as an increase in the need for the services they provide; and

WHEREAS, the many honors John Newhart has received include being named Sheriff of the Year in 1997 by the National Sheriff's Association, the Martin Luther King, Jr., Courageous Leadership Award, and a Daily Point of Light Award by President George H.W. Bush; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career John Newhart has promoted professional development and training for Virginia's—and the nation's—sheriffs and their staffs; he is the cofounder and past president of both the Virginia Sheriff's Institute and the American Jail Association; and

WHEREAS, John Newhart is active in community organizations; he is past chair of the Virginia Special Olympics Torch Run, a director of the Indigent Family Christmas Baskets distribution program, works with Chesapeake Crime Line, and belongs to the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 9; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Chesapeake Sheriff John R. Newhart for his four decades of public safety service to the residents of Chesapeake; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to John R. Newhart as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and gratitude for his service.

INTRODUCED

HJ223