HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 525

Commending the Patrick County Sheriff's Office.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 23, 2015 Agreed to by the Senate, January 29, 2015

WHEREAS, the Patrick County Sheriff's Office joined a select group of law-enforcement agencies in October 2014 when it became accredited by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission; and

WHEREAS, under the guidance of Patrick County Sheriff Dan Smith, the staff of the sheriff's office worked very hard for several years to attain accreditation by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC); it is one of only 92 agencies to be accredited; and

WHEREAS, accreditation by the VLEPSC helps to ensure that a law-enforcement agency in the Commonwealth is following established professional practices; it also provides a way to measure a department's performance, programs, and services; and

WHEREAS, the entire staff of the Patrick County Sheriff's Office was united in its mission to become accredited; the VLEPSC designation will help the sheriff's office work more effectively and efficiently; and

WHEREAS, training, cooperation, and developing effective communication strategies are among the criteria used to achieve VLEPSC accreditation; as an accredited agency the Patrick County Sheriff's Office also is committed to working with the public to prevent and fight crime; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Patrick County Sheriff's Office for receiving accreditation from the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dan Smith, Sheriff of Patrick County, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for his leadership in achieving this law-enforcement accreditation for his office.