

## 2015 SESSION

INTRODUCED

15104559D

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 834

Offered February 16, 2015

*Commending Robert Simpkins.*

Patron—Yost; Senator: Chafin

WHEREAS, Robert Simpkins, a dedicated firefighter who safeguarded the lives and property of his fellow Radford residents for 44 years, retired in 2015 as Chief of the City of Radford Fire and Rescue Department; and

WHEREAS, beginning his career in firefighting in 1970, Robert Simpkins served the City of Radford as a volunteer for four years; he was hired as a fulltime firefighter in 1974 and rose to the rank of lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Robert Simpkins was appointed Chief of the City of Radford Fire and Rescue Department; during his career with the City of Radford, he ably served the community under five city managers and three fire chiefs; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as chief, Robert Simpkins established a fire inspection program and returned the department's first fire truck to the station for display; and

WHEREAS, a generous servant to the community, Robert Simpkins worked with a local nonprofit organization to set up a food distribution center at the station, and he and the department hosted countless fundraisers, dinners, and charitable events; and

WHEREAS, in times of crisis or natural disaster, Robert Simpkins supported his fellow first responders and city employees, providing food and drinks to public works, public safety, and electrical department personnel working to restore or maintain public services and utilities; and

WHEREAS, Robert Simpkins is an exemplar of the hard work, professionalism, and care for the community displayed by firefighters and first responders throughout the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Robert Simpkins on the occasion of his retirement as Chief of the City of Radford Fire and Rescue Department; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robert Simpkins as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his service and contributions to the City of Radford.

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