

16103348D

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 299

Offered February 16, 2016

*Commending Shannon Zeman.*

Patron—Rush

WHEREAS, Shannon Zeman, who faithfully served his friends and neighbors for 12 years as Sheriff of Floyd County, retired in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Shannon Zeman's roots in Floyd County run deep; he graduated from Floyd County High School in 1982; desirous of being closer to his wife and young daughter after working away from the area for several years, he was hired by the sheriff's office in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Shannon Zeman discovered that he loved working for the Floyd County Sheriff's Office and relished the variety that he encountered in law-enforcement work; his first assignment was as a dispatcher, and he also was given duties at the jail; and

WHEREAS, Shannon Zeman decided to make a career of law enforcement, and over the years he worked in every position of the Floyd County Sheriff's Office, including civil work and county ordinance enforcement; and

WHEREAS, after eight years as chief deputy, Shannon Zeman became Sheriff of Floyd County in 2004; he stressed to his employees the importance of being professional and compassionate in their daily work, recognizing that policing a community means making its residents feel safe—often by showing careful and compassionate attention to those in need; and

WHEREAS, during Shannon Zeman's tenure as sheriff, Floyd County became part of the New River Valley Regional Jail Authority; other developments that occurred while Shannon Zeman was sheriff included the opening of a new courtroom, and expanded space for the Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, some of the accomplishments that Shannon Zeman are most proud of include the strengthening of professional ties with neighboring law enforcement agencies and the many achievements of his officers; and

WHEREAS, Shannon Zeman also shared his knowledge and expertise of local law enforcement as chair of the New River Criminal Justice Training Academy, which was built while he was sheriff; he was chair of the Board of Directors of the New River Valley Regional Jail Authority and served on the board of the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute; and

WHEREAS, giving back to his community is important to Shannon Zeman; he is president of Medical Charities of Floyd County, Inc., and was Floyd County's representative to a regional health care foundation; and

WHEREAS, in retirement, Shannon Zeman plans to work in his family's tree and greenery business and also hopes to operate a farm—activities in which he did not have time to participate when he was Sheriff of Floyd County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Shannon Zeman on the occasion of his retirement as Sheriff of Floyd County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Shannon Zeman as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and appreciation for his many years of dedicated public service to the people of Floyd County and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

HJ299