

## 2017 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 888

Offered February 6, 2017

*Commending Rob Buswell.*

Patrons—Bell, John J. and Greason

WHEREAS, Rob Buswell, a courageous member of the Prince William County community, has dedicated his life to advocacy for the victims of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Rob Buswell came forward to identify his childhood molester and learned that, while the man had been previously convicted of abuse, he was not listed on the Virginia Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry because his crimes predated the creation of the Registry in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Rob Buswell worked diligently to ensure that the Virginia Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry was expanded to include crimes committed prior to 1994 with what became known as Robby's Rule; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State Police Supplement to the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry now includes information on more than 5,600 individuals who were convicted of certain sexual offenses between 1980 and 1994 and who had not previously been listed on the Registry; and

WHEREAS, Rob Buswell continued his work to protect children by advocating for legislation to prevent the Department of Motor Vehicles from issuing the special "Kids First" license plate to registered sex offenders, noting that his abuser had such a license plate on his vehicle at the time of his arrest; and

WHEREAS, Rob Buswell's willingness to discuss his own traumatic abuse has made countless Virginia families safer, and his courage has encouraged other adult survivors of abuse to step forward and help others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Rob Buswell for his devoted advocacy for victims of child abuse; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Rob Buswell as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his work to safeguard children throughout the Commonwealth.

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