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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 223

Offered March 5, 2018

Commending Donald Hays Hopson.

Patron—Obenshain

WHEREAS, Donald Hays Hopson, a proud veteran of the United States Marine Corps and a respected veterinarian, has served the residents of the Shenandoah Valley and Commonwealth for many years; and

WHEREAS, a native of Rankin County, Mississippi, Donald "Don" Hopson grew up on his family's farm, gaining a lifelong appreciation for the value of hard work and responsibility; while attending high school, he helped support his family by driving one of the school buses; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, Don Hopson enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and reported to Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island in South Carolina for training; he served in combat in Vietnam for 13 months, earning two Purple Heart medals; and

WHEREAS, after his service during the Vietnam War, Don Hopson was detailed as a Marine Security Guard and worked on plain-clothes protective details for the United States Department of State for one year; and

WHEREAS, Don Hopson completed his military service as a Marine Security Guard at the United States Embassy in Oslo, Norway, then returned to the United States to continue his education at Prince George's Community College in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Don Hopson later enrolled at the University of Maryland and finished his degree in veterinary medicine at the University of Georgia; in 1979, he settled in the Commonwealth, where he and his wife raised their four children; and

WHEREAS, Don Hopson practiced as a large animal veterinarian from 1979 to 2006; emphasizing good customer service, he relished the opportunity to care for animals and help local farmers; and

WHEREAS, for more than a decade, Don Hopson has served the Shenandoah Valley community as a Virginia Regional State Veterinarian for the Division of Animal and Food Industry Services in the Office of Veterinary Services; and

WHEREAS, Don Hopson has also supported the community as a member of the West Rockingham Ruritan Club since 1982, holding multiple leadership positions, including vice president and president; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Donald Hays Hopson, a veterinarian and a patriotic member of the Shenandoah Valley community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Donald Hays Hopson as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his legacy of community service.

INTRODUCED

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