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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 725

Offered January 17, 2019

Commending Steve Dempsey.

Patrons—Ransone and Thomas; Senator: Stuart

WHEREAS, Steve Dempsey will retire as sheriff of King George County in December 2019, after a distinguished career in public service as a law-enforcement officer for 39 years; and

WHEREAS, Steve Dempsey is a long-time King George County resident from a long line of public servants; he graduated from King George High School, earned a degree in police science from Germanna Community College, and served his country as a member of the Virginia National Guard from 1972 to 1978; and

WHEREAS, Steve Dempsey started with the King George County Sheriff's Office in 1980 and was promoted to sergeant four years later; he reached the rank of captain in 1988 and major in 2009; he has held the position of sheriff since January 1, 2011; and

WHEREAS, at every step along his professional career, Steve Dempsey has engaged in educational and professional training, building his skills at the Rappahannock Criminal Justice Academy, the Metropolitan Police K-9 Academy, the FBI National Academy, and the DEA's Drug Unit Commander Academy, leading to a wide breadth of law-enforcement knowledge; and

WHEREAS, in his duties as sheriff, Steve Dempsey has led an entire department of sworn deputies, animal control officers, communications officers, and administrative staff, providing a wide range of law-enforcement services for the public, including criminal and narcotic investigation, court security, a special response team, K-9 services, school resource officers, rescue services, and traffic services; and

WHEREAS, Steve Dempsey gives back to his community as a deacon and Sunday school teacher at Spotswood Baptist Church; he also contributes to his profession as a state-certified law-enforcement instructor and as the current president of the 8,900-member Virginia Sheriffs' Association; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Steve Dempsey for his lifetime of public service as a law-enforcement officer; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Steve Dempsey as a tangible reminder of the respect and gratitude of the General Assembly and the citizens of the Commonwealth.