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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 15

Offered January 25, 2022

Commending the Honorable Mark Cole.

Patrons—Scott, P.A., Adams, L.R., Avoli, Ballard, Bell, Bloxom, Brewer, Byron, Campbell, J.L., Campbell, R.R., Cherry, Cordoza, Coyner, Davis, Durant, Edmunds, Fariss, Fowler, Freitas, Gilbert, Head, Hodges, Keam, Knight, LaRock, Leftwich, March, Marshall, McGuire, McNamara, McQuinn, Morefield, O'Quinn, Orrock, Ransone, Robinson, Runion, Tata, Taylor, Wachsmann, Wampler, Ware, Webert, Wiley, Williams, Wilt, Wright and Wyatt

WHEREAS, the Honorable Mark Cole ably represented the residents of the 88th District for more than two decades as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates; and

WHEREAS, Mark Cole grew up in Kentucky and graduated from Western Kentucky University, where he joined the university's Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps program; after graduation, he was commissioned as an officer in the United States Navy and served aboard the USS *Mississippi*; and

WHEREAS, Mark Cole continued to serve the nation as a member of the United States Naval Reserve for more than two decades, retiring with the rank of commander; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his bachelor's degree in civil technology engineering from Western Kentucky University, Mark Cole holds degrees in computer information systems from Germanna Community College and computer science from the University of Mary Washington; he pursued a career as a systems analyst and worked for various military contractors supporting the United States Navy; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of further service to his community, Mark Cole ran for and was elected to the Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors in 1999 and served in that capacity until 2002 when he took office as the state delegate for the 88th District, representing the residents of parts of Fredericksburg and the Counties of Fauquier, Spotsylvania, and Stafford; and

WHEREAS, Mark Cole introduced and supported numerous pieces of legislation to benefit all Virginians and was a champion for privacy and individual liberty, low tax rates, and limited government intervention; and

WHEREAS, Mark Cole offered his leadership and expertise to his colleagues as chair of the Privileges and Elections Committee and a member of the committees on Education, Finance, and General Laws; he served on the Small Business Commission, Rappahannock River Basin Commission, Veterans Services Board, Virginia Commission on Youth, Southern Regional Education Board, and the House Science and Technology Committee; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, Mark Cole was hired as the deputy county administrator of Spotsylvania County and has helped ensure efficient and effective implementation of county operations for nearly a decade; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as a state lawmaker, Mark Cole was highly admired for his unfailing commitment to the finest constituent service; he served the Commonwealth and the residents of the 88th District with the utmost humility and dedication; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Honorable Mark Cole hereby be commended for his 20 years of service as a state legislator; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Honorable Mark Cole as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his legacy of contributions to the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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