

2025 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 467

Offered January 13, 2025

Prefiled January 12, 2025

Commending Ray Reynolds.

Patron—Phillips (By Request)

WHEREAS, for two decades, Ray Reynolds of Henry County worked tirelessly to honor the memories of the Short family and raise money to support scholarships for local students; and

WHEREAS, Ray Reynolds was profoundly affected by the 2002 murder of local residents Michael and Mary Short and their nine-year-old daughter, Jennifer, and resolved to make a difference in the community; and

WHEREAS, a local businessman, Ray Reynolds used his connections to raise awareness of the heinous crime in the hopes that the Short family's killer or killers would be found and brought to justice, establishing the Jennifer Renee Short Memorial Ride in 2002; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Ray Reynolds, the Jennifer Renee Short Memorial Ride brought together hundreds of participants on motorcycles and other vehicles who rode from a starting point in Henry County to what is now known as the Jennifer Renee Short Memorial Bridge in Rockingham County, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, with the help of numerous volunteers and local sponsors, Ray Reynolds guided the event for 20 years and raised more than \$45,000 to support college scholarships for more than 60 Bassett High School students; and

WHEREAS, after Ray Reynolds retired as the director of the Jennifer Renee Short Memorial Ride in 2022, the event was reorganized under new leadership, and it continues to enjoy support from members of the community and local law-enforcement officers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Ray Reynolds for his 20 years of achievements as the longtime organizer of the Jennifer Renee Short Memorial Ride; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Ray Reynolds as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his generosity and passion for community service.

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