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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 726  
Offered February 17, 2025

Commending Carlos Cañas.

Patrons—Lopez, Bennett-Parker, Callsen, Clark, Cole, Cordoza, Green, Herring, Hope, Keys-Gamarra, Maldonado, Martinez, McClure, McQuinn, Rasoul, Ware and Watts; Senators: Diggs, Ebbin, Hashmi, Reeves, Rouse, Salim and Williams Graves

WHEREAS, Carlos Cañas, a distinguished law-enforcement officer and deputy with the Alexandria Sheriff's Office, was named Virginia Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the American Legion Department of Virginia in 2024; and

WHEREAS, Carlos Cañas has previously served the Alexandria Sheriff's Office as a transportation deputy and in the detention center and is currently supporting the department's mission as the gang and intelligence investigator; and

WHEREAS, beyond his primary roles, Carlos Cañas has mentored his fellow law-enforcement officers as a state-certified field trainer, general instructor, and control tactics instructor, and supported the Alexandria Sheriff's Office as a member of its emergency response team, civil disobedience unit, and honor guard; and

WHEREAS, with fluency in both English and Spanish and experience as a competitive soccer player and coach, Carlos Cañas has been invaluable to the Alexandria Sheriff's Office in its efforts to recruit new officers and make meaningful connections with area youth; and

WHEREAS, Carlos Cañas has consistently demonstrated a willingness and ability to lead, serving as president of his academy class, the Alexandria Sheriff's Association, and the Alexandria Sheriff's Employee Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, Carlos Cañas received the nomination for this prestigious statewide honor after he was named the 2023 Alexandria Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by American Legion Post 24 in Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Sheriff's Office has cited two critical occasions when Carlos Cañas demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to his responsibilities as an officer, including when he located a Project Lifesaver client who went missing while he was off-duty and when he ably responded to a shooting incident so that both the victim was saved and the perpetrator was apprehended; and

WHEREAS, with exceptional professionalism, integrity, and dedication to serving and protecting the community, Carlos Cañas has embodied the ideals of the law-enforcement profession, earning the esteem and admiration of all Virginians; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Carlos Cañas for being named the 2024 Virginia Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the American Legion Department of Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Carlos Cañas as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his contributions to law enforcement in Alexandria and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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