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1 **HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 15**

2 Offered January 19, 2026

3 *Commending Richard D. Hinkley.*

4 Patron—Walker

5 WHEREAS, Richard D. Hinkley, an esteemed law-enforcement officer and police chief emeritus of the
6 Liberty University Police Department, retired in 2025; and7 WHEREAS, Richard Hinkley served his country honorably for four years as a member of the United
8 States Air Force before attending Liberty University from 1977 to 1981, where he pursued a bachelor's
9 degree in youth ministry; and10 WHEREAS, as a bus driver with Liberty University's transit services, Richard Hinkley developed a
11 friendship with Liberty University's chief of security David Heerspink, which inspired him to join the Liberty
12 University security department in 1979; and13 WHEREAS, after serving as both a corrections officer and deputy with the Clinton County Sheriff's
14 Office in Plattsburgh, New York, from 1990 to 1996, Richard Hinkley returned to the Liberty University
15 Police Department (LUPD) for the remainder of his career; and16 WHEREAS, Richard Hinkley supported the LUPD in various capacities and was then promoted to chief
17 of police in February 2009 after training under the previous chief, Howard Gregory; and18 WHEREAS, Richard Hinkley's tenure as the chief of the LUPD was marked by his commitment to
19 ensuring that the department achieved both state and national standards and that its officers prioritized
20 developing positive working relationships with students; and21 WHEREAS, Richard Hinkley was guided throughout his career by his deep and abiding faith, and he
22 inspired his officers every day to embrace their duty to protect and serve the community; and23 WHEREAS, with great dedication, compassion, and willingness to serve, Richard Hinkley has epitomized
24 the ideals of the law-enforcement profession, earning the esteem and admiration of all Virginians; now,
25 therefore, be it26 WHEREAS, Richard Hinkley was guided throughout his career by his deep and abiding faith, and he
27 inspired his officers every day to embrace their duty to protect and serve the community; and, be it28 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for
29 presentation to Richard D. Hinkley as an expression of the House of Delegates' appreciation for his service
30 and best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

INTRODUCED

HR15