

2008 SESSION

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089075304

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 159

Offered February 5, 2008

Commending Joseph Viar, Jr.

Patron—Puller

WHEREAS, Joseph Viar, Jr., entrepreneur, sportsman, philanthropist, and great friend and supporter of INOVA Alexandria Hospital, was named the *Alexandria Times* 2007 Citizen of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Joseph "Joe" Viar, Jr., was born on June 15, 1941, in Philadelphia, grew up in Lynchburg, played single-wing blocker on his high school football team, and won a scholarship to Hampden-Sydney College, where he excelled as a mathematics major and graduated as a member of the Class of 1963; and

WHEREAS, now retired, Joe Viar was the founder and chairman of Viar & Co., Inc., an outstanding computer consulting firm with offices in Richmond and Alexandria, which was acquired by DynCorp in 1991; and

WHEREAS, Joe Viar has developed computer-related programs for communications and has served as a technical consultant for IBM to investigate new techniques in data communications; and

WHEREAS, Joe Viar has worked with the Environmental Protection Agency, the Blue Cross-Blue Shield Medicaid Administration System, and the Lawyer's Title On-Line Search System to improve their communications systems, data processing, standards, and management planning; and

WHEREAS, an enthusiastic supporter of his alma mater and its athletic program, Joe Viar has been a member of the board of trustees of Hampden-Sydney College for 25 years; and

WHEREAS, committed to improving the quality of life of his fellow citizens, Joe Viar has served as chairman of the Alexandria Hospital Foundation, a founder and member of the George Mason University Century Club, vice-chairman of the Virginia Olympic Committee, and a member of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, a tireless and outstanding fundraiser, Joe Viar's exemplary service to INOVA Alexandria Hospital has been instrumental in helping to raise funds for the hospital's 2010 Project, which will include 68,000 square feet of space on three floors for renovations and expansions that will improve and enhance the emergency, surgical, cardiovascular, and interventional radiology departments, and other vital service areas for the future; and

WHEREAS, eager to give back to his community, Joe Viar has won numerous awards and accolades over the years for his outstanding service to the community; and

WHEREAS, now retired from the high-powered business world, Joe Viar is a world champion angler who has fished the waters off the Florida Keys, Russia, New Zealand, Peru, Chile, and the Seychelle Islands, and he learned to love the sport as a child, fishing along the James River on weekends with his father, Joe Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Joe Viar has two grown daughters and two grandchildren and lives with his companion of 15 years, Bonnie Christ, on the beautiful Potomac River; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Joseph Viar, Jr., on his well-deserved honor as the 2007 *Alexandria Times* Citizen of the Year; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Joseph Viar, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation of his many accomplishments and gratitude for his commitment to the citizens of Alexandria and the Commonwealth.

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