

2010 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 461

Offered March 8, 2010

Commending Randal E. Arno.

Patrons—Marshall, D.W., Merricks and Poindexter; Senators: Hurt, Reynolds and Ruff

WHEREAS, Randal E. Arno is honored as a recipient of the 2009 Unsung Heroes Award, an honor of the Excellence in Virginia Government Awards; and

WHEREAS, the Excellence in Virginia Government Awards are sponsored by Virginia Commonwealth University's L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs; and

WHEREAS, an experienced administrator, Randal E. "Randy" Arno worked for 23 years for local government in Virginia, including in Fluvanna, Alleghany, Tazewell, and Floyd Counties, and for five years in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, in 1995 Randy Arno became the director of the University of Virginia Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service's Southside Office in Danville; and

WHEREAS, as director, Randy Arno leads the Southside Office of the Cooper Center in its mission to provide public policy analysis, applied research, technical assistance, leadership development, survey research, consultation, and training for state and local officials, community leaders, and the general public; and

WHEREAS, for over 15 years, Randy Arno has worked diligently to help leaders, stakeholders, and their constituents develop and implement programs that are beneficial to the Southside Virginia region; and

WHEREAS, Randy Arno and the Southside Office of the Cooper Center have been instrumental in analyzing public issues and assisting in many legislative initiatives through the creation of the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission, the Regional Center for Advanced Technology and Training of Danville Community College, the Rural Virginia Prosperity Commission, the Roanoke River Bi-State Commission, the Danville Science Center, and many others; and

WHEREAS, among his many accomplishments, Randy Arno and the Southside Office of the Cooper Center have supported the deployment of affordable high-speed broadband throughout the region and coordinated higher education initiatives through the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research in Danville, the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center in South Boston, and the New College Institute in Martinsville; and

WHEREAS, Randy Arno has been called a "virtual knowledge center for rural Virginians," and is well-known for his dedication to the citizens of the Commonwealth and to the Southside Virginia region; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Randal E. Arno as a most worthy recipient of the 2009 Unsung Heroes Award, an honor of the Excellence in Virginia Government Awards; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Randal E. Arno as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for his excellent leadership and longtime public service to the Commonwealth.

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