

2012 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 442

Offered February 23, 2012

Commending John Thomas Hennessy.

Patron—Gilbert

WHEREAS, John Thomas Hennessy is a dedicated and skillful public servant who ably served the citizens of Page County as Commonwealth's Attorney for eight terms, from 1979 until 2011; and

WHEREAS, John Thomas "Jack" Hennessy, who was born in Kyoto, Japan, earned a bachelor's degree from Virginia Military Institute and a law degree from the University of Richmond School of Law; he also served in the Virginia Army National Guard as a first lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, after finishing law school in 1975, Jack Hennessy began practicing law with the Will and Hennessy law firm; he became Commonwealth's Attorney for Page County four years later, in 1979, serving in that part-time position while maintaining his private legal practice; and

WHEREAS, Jack Hennessy was a partner in the Will, Hennessy & Reed law firm from 1984 to 1996 while serving the residents of Page County as their chief prosecutor; in 1996 the office of Commonwealth's Attorney was expanded to a full-time position; and

WHEREAS, with a firm grasp of the law and the help of a skilled staff, Jack Hennessy worked closely with law-enforcement personnel to diligently prosecute criminals in Page County's courtrooms, and he also stressed that criminal sentencing be appropriate given the harm done to victims and their property; and

WHEREAS, Jack Hennessy has been involved with his community in many areas; he is a member of the Caverns Shrine Club and the Lafayette Lodge Ancient Free & Accepted Masons #137, and he worships at St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church in Luray; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend a dedicated public servant who served the residents of Page County with great distinction, compassion, and professionalism, John Thomas Hennessy; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to John Thomas Hennessy as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and gratitude for his years of service to the people of Page County and to the Commonwealth.

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