

2012 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 58

Commending the Reverend Dr. Robert D. Friend.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 13, 2012
Agreed to by the Senate, January 19, 2012

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Robert D. Friend announced his retirement from parish ministry, effective September 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Friend graduated from the University of Virginia in 1973, entered Virginia Theological Seminary, and was ordained a priest on December 18, 1976; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Friend left the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia and for the next 10 years served at Eastern Shore Chapel in Virginia Beach, where he met and married Susan; he was then called to serve at St. Anne's Parish in Annapolis, Maryland, ministering to the midshipmen of the United States Naval Academy; and

WHEREAS, in 1987 the Reverend Friend returned to the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia, and spent the next 14 years as Rector of St. Francis Great Falls, where he developed the parish from a small church to a program-sized parish; during his time at St. Francis, he completed the requirements for a Doctor of Ministry from Virginia Theological Seminary in 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Friend was called to All Saints Richmond in May 2001; his successes included revitalizing the parish's overseas mission ministry, invigorating the youth of the parish to take on mission programs, and increasing Christian education opportunities within the parish; and, with his leadership, All Saints continues to be known for its premier music program; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Friend was instrumental in continuing the healing services at All Saints, having experienced this himself, working with people both inside and outside the parish, and imparting a deeper knowledge of God and his presence; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Friend has served in numerous capacities within the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia; he served on the Executive Board from 1990 to 1993, was elected to the Standing Committee in 2002, was Dean of Region XII from 2004 to 2007, served on the board at Roslyn, and was a founding member of the River Road Clergy Association; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Friend exemplifies the attributes of a good shepherd, demonstrating a generosity of spirit while drawing people closer to God throughout their lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Reverend Dr. Robert D. Friend for his work within the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia and his leadership in the healing ministries; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Dr. Robert D. Friend as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations for his dedication and commitment to building communities where all are welcome.

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