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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 643

Offered January 9, 2013

Prefiled January 8, 2013

*Commending Ballard Fish and Oyster Co., Inc.*

Patron—Lewis

WHEREAS, Ballard Fish and Oyster Co., Inc., a fifth-generation seafood business located in Northampton County, received a 2012 Tayloe Murphy Resilience Award from the Initiative for Business in Society at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business; and

WHEREAS, the Tayloe Murphy Resilience Awards, presented in part with sponsorship from *Virginia Business* magazine, honor the most resilient businesses in the Commonwealth—those that display growth, a dogged entrepreneurial spirit, and commitment to the community in areas facing high unemployment, high poverty, and low entrepreneurial activity; and

WHEREAS, for more than 115 years, Ballard Fish and Oyster Co., Inc., has produced clams and oysters in the waters of Virginia's Eastern Shore, helping preserve an industry that dates back to colonial times; and

WHEREAS, Ballard Fish and Oyster Co., Inc., which opened in 1895, produces more than 75 million clams annually, making it one of the nation's leading providers of farm-raised, hard shell clams; and

WHEREAS, Ballard Fish and Oyster Co., Inc., also harvests an array of flavorful oysters from its growing grounds off the Eastern Shore that make their way into succulent dishes in restaurants and homes; and

WHEREAS, a vital part of the Northampton County economy, Ballard Fish and Oyster Co., Inc., has persevered through difficult times, and today employs more than 170 workers, making it one of Northampton County's largest employers; and

WHEREAS, a model for other businesses, Ballard Fish and Oyster Co., Inc., now under the leadership of Chad Ballard III, has continued to thrive with a business model based on ingenuity, determination, and dedication to the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Ballard Fish and Oyster Co., Inc., on its selection as a 2012 Tayloe Murphy Resilience Award winner from the Initiative for Business in Society at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Chad Ballard III, president of Ballard Fish and Oyster Co., Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the company's enduring entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to the people of the Eastern Shore.

INTRODUCED

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