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## **HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 191**

Offered February 15, 2013

Commending Robert T. Skunda.

Patrons—McClellan and Carr

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WHEREAS, Robert T. Skunda, the president and chief executive officer of the Virginia

BioTechnology Research Park, will retire in 2013; and WHEREAS, Robert "Bob" Skunda enjoyed a successful career with Dewberry & Davis LLC and served as chair of the Fairfax County and Virginia Chambers of Commerce prior to becoming the Commonwealth's Secretary of Commerce and Trade in 1994; and

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WHEREAS, in 1997 Bob Skunda joined the Virginia BioTechnology Research Park, which had 350 individuals working in four buildings in 100,000 square feet of occupied space; and

13 14 15 WHEREAS, Bob Skunda worked to fulfill the Virginia BioTechnology Research Park's mission and goal of transforming the space into a leading-edge bioscience research center; and

15 16 17 WHEREAS, under Bob Skunda's visionary leadership, the Virginia BioTechnology Research Park has grown to nine buildings housing 2,700 workers and 60 tenant companies, research institutes, and public laboratories engaged in the latest scientific work; and

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WHEREAS, Bob Skunda has worked with biotechnology industry leaders and local and state government officials to advance the Virginia BioTechnology Research Park as a dynamic scientific community located in the heart of downtown Richmond; and

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WHEREAS, the Virginia BioTechnology Research Park has earned numerous awards and accolades under the direction of Bob Skunda; and

WHEREAS, Bob Skunda's tireless efforts and effective leadership have positioned the Virginia BioTechnology Research Park for continued growth and success in the future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Robert T. Skunda hereby be commended for his distinguished service to the Virginia BioTechnology Research Park on the occasion of his retirement; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robert T. Skunda as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration and gratitude for his work to promote the Commonwealth's biotechnology industry.