

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 323

Commending John Appelman.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 21, 2014
Agreed to by the Senate, February 27, 2014

WHEREAS, John Appelman, a lifelong resident of Chesterfield County and a second-generation family farmer, will celebrate his 100th birthday on March 4, 2014; and

WHEREAS, John Appelman's parents immigrated to Chesterfield County from Germany two months before he was born; he was the family's sixth child; and

WHEREAS, the family, which eventually grew to seven children—four boys and three girls—settled on a farm in Chesterfield County that became their livelihood; they raised livestock, various grains, tobacco, and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, John Appelman attended Elkhardt School and graduated from Manchester High School; a proud American, he served in World War II as a soldier in the United States Army and was wounded; he returned to the battlefield after he recovered and was awarded a Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, after the war, John Appelman worked on the family farm; his parents had taught their children the values of hard work, responsibility, and respect for others; when his brother died in 1952, he farmed the land on his own for many years; and

WHEREAS, John Appelman went about his work quietly and independently, putting forth great effort without complaint; he raised livestock and coaxed bountiful yields from the land year after year; and

WHEREAS, as he grew older, John Appelman reduced the amount of work he did on the family farm and concentrated on growing vegetables that he gladly shares; friends and family members remark that he raises some of the best vegetables in Chesterfield County; and

WHEREAS, a hallmark of John Appelman's life is his willingness to help others, never expecting any recognition in return; he is a man of faith and enjoys fellowship and worship at Belmont United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, John Appelman especially has enjoyed being a member of the Young At Heart seniors group of Belmont United Methodist Church; the group has been a great source of support and friendship over the years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend John Appelman on the occasion of his 100th birthday; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to John Appelman as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for his years as a farmer in Chesterfield County and for his service and friendship to others.