

2014 SESSION

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 58

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled January 8, 2014

Commending Nelson Farley.

Patron—Yancey

WHEREAS, for more than 40 years, Nelson Farley of Newport News has given a toy to every child who visits his house to trick-or-treat on Halloween; and

WHEREAS, the generous gesture began in 1970 when Nelson Farley decided that toys would be a healthier and safer alternative to candy; in that first year, 70 children were given coloring books or balsa wood gliders; and

WHEREAS, the gift-giving program has grown immensely, and in 2013 the resident of the picturesque Hilton Village neighborhood gave out more than 1,100 toys; and

WHEREAS, on October 31, 2013, groups of children were invited inside Nelson Farley's house to choose from an array of toys, including dolls, Frisbees, yo-yos, batons, recorders, jump ropes, and stuffed animals; and

WHEREAS, the Halloween gifts program has become an established neighborhood event; the parents of some of the children who chose toys this year were trick-or-treaters at Nelson Farley's house when they were young; and

WHEREAS, Nelson Farley has many talents; in addition to his initiative to make Halloween an annual rite of childhood an even more special event in Hilton Village, he also is a poet and each year writes a special Halloween poem that he shares with his neighbors; and

WHEREAS, the eagerly awaited Halloween tradition that Nelson Farley created four decades ago will become a project of Hilton Presbyterian Church starting in 2014; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Nelson Farley hereby be commended for his decades of work to make Halloween in Newport News' Hilton Village community happier, healthier, and safer; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Nelson Farley as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his successful efforts to give joy to children.

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