

2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5085

Offered June 4, 2014

Commending Jon Ellestad.

Patrons—Cline; Senator: Deeds

WHEREAS, Jon Ellestad, an accomplished civil servant in the City of Lexington, retires as city manager in July 2014 after more than two decades of diligent service; and

WHEREAS, a native of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, Jon Ellestad earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin and continued his education at the University of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, Jon Ellestad completed an internship with the city manager in Newark, Delaware, then worked as an assistant city manager for three years; he went on to serve the Town of Blacksburg for five years and the City of Fairfax for eight years; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, Jon Ellestad applied for the position of city manager in the City of Lexington; impressing both residents and the city council, he was appointed to and has served in that position for almost 24 years; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished career, Jon Ellestad built strong relationships with dozens of city council members; he offered his wisdom to new members and worked to facilitate outcomes on policy decisions that would benefit all Lexington residents; and

WHEREAS, among his many accomplishments, Jon Ellestad oversaw the consolidation of fire and emergency services, hired the city's first paid fire chief, and improved the water system; and

WHEREAS, Jon Ellestad successfully encouraged cooperation between Rockbridge County and the Cities of Lexington and Buena Vista to create a regional tourism program, emergency dispatch center, and senior center; and

WHEREAS, Jon Ellestad plans to remain in Lexington after his well-earned retirement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Jon Ellestad on the occasion of his retirement as city manager of the City of Lexington in 2014; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jon Ellestad as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his leadership and best wishes for a happy retirement.

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