15105175D **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 873**

Offered February 19, 2015

Commending James Ronald Ennis.

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Patrons—Edmunds; Senator: Ruff

WHEREAS, James Ronald Ennis, a respected attorney and loyal public servant, retires as the Commonwealth's Attorney for Prince Edward County in 2015 after more than two decades of service; and

WHEREAS, a native of Prince Edward County, James Ennis earned a bachelor's degree from Hampden-Sydney College and a law degree from the University of Richmond, then practiced law in Richmond for several years; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, James Ennis returned to Farmville and opened a private law office, where he served the community until October 1, 1991, when he was appointed Commonwealth's Attorney for Prince Edward County to fill an unexpired term; and

WHEREAS, James Ennis was elected as Commonwealth's Attorney in 1991 and faithfully served the residents of Prince Edward County for 24 years; he oversaw a period of growth and transition for the office, with the caseload increasing by approximately 600 percent since 1991; and

WHEREAS, leading Prince Edward County into the 21st century, James Ennis was one of the first Commonwealth's attorneys to implement an electronic case management system to better serve the public; he also helped safeguard residents by encouraging the establishment of local neighborhood watches; and

WHEREAS, after the completion of his term as Commonwealth's Attorney, James Ennis looks forward to finding new ways to serve the Prince Edward community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend James Ronald Ennis on the occasion of his retirement as the Commonwealth's Attorney for Prince Edward County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to James Ronald Ennis as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his service to Prince Edward County and the Commonwealth.