

15105273D

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 948**

Offered February 23, 2015

*Commending Michael Torrech.*

Patrons—Davis and Villanueva; Senator: McWaters

WHEREAS, Michael Torrech of Chesapeake, a philanthropist and respected leader in shipbuilding and the maritime industry, retired as chief executive officer of American Maritime Holdings in September 2014; and

WHEREAS, Michael Torrech earned a bachelor's degree from Old Dominion University and began his distinguished maritime career as an apprentice at Norfolk Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation, which is now BAE Systems; and

WHEREAS, after serving as president of Técnico Corporation, Michael Torrech co-founded American Maritime Holdings, and under his exceptional leadership, it grew to become one of the largest employee-owned maritime industrial companies in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Michael Torrech is a trusted mentor to countless fellow entrepreneurs and maritime workers; to ensure a strong, well-educated maritime workforce, he established the AMH Apprentice Program and is a founding member and chair of the National Maritime Education Council; and

WHEREAS, deeply respected by his peers, Michael Torrech serves on the boards of the Shipbuilders Council of America and the Virginia Ship Repair Association; he also works to strengthen the industry through the United States Small Business Administration 8(a) Mentor-Protégé Program; and

WHEREAS, generously volunteering his time and talents with several civic and service organizations, Michael Torrech is the chair of Orphan Helpers, a nonprofit organization that serves children and youths in Central America; and

WHEREAS, Michael Torrech has received numerous awards and accolades for his good work, including the 2002 Distinguished Alumni Award from Old Dominion University and recognition from the Great Bridge Rotary Club for his 20 years of service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Michael Torrech on the occasion of his retirement as chief executive officer of American Maritime Holdings; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Michael Torrech as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his many contributions to the Chesapeake community and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

HJ948