

16106015D

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 517

Offered March 7, 2016

*Commending Paul F. Berge.*

Patrons—Bloxom; Senator: Lewis

WHEREAS, Paul F. Berge, the retired executive director of the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission, has been named to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners for his outstanding achievements in urban planning; and

WHEREAS, Paul Berge was recognized by the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) in the category of community service and leadership; being honored as a member of the AICP's College of Fellows is the profession's highest honor; and

WHEREAS, AICP Fellows have shown excellence in professional practice, teaching and mentoring, research, public and community service, and leadership; they also have made positive and long-lasting contributions to the planning profession, which works to create communities that offer better choices for where and how people live; and

WHEREAS, Paul Berge served for 28 years as executive director of the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission and worked to improve the area in numerous ways; he helped the area obtain more than \$100 million in federal and state funds; and

WHEREAS, to address urgent housing needs, Paul Berge played a major role in establishing the first nonprofit housing corporation and regional housing authority on the Eastern Shore and he also was head of the regional economic development agency for 21 years, securing funding for projects and helping to create jobs; and

WHEREAS, in his role as head of the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission, Paul Berge provided advice and guidance to 19 towns and two counties as they complied with various planning requirements and the provisions of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act; and

WHEREAS, Paul Berge earned a bachelor's degree from The College of William & Mary and a master's degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology; he is an active volunteer in his community and helped start the Eastern Shore Public Library Foundation where he is chair of the building committee for a new main public library; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Paul F. Berge, the retired executive director of the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission, for being named to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners for his outstanding achievements in urban planning; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Paul F. Berge as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and congratulations for his leadership and exemplary accomplishments that have helped define the places where Virginians live and work.

INTRODUCED

HJ517