

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 60

Celebrating the life of Charles Rinker.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 15, 2016
Agreed to by the Senate, January 21, 2016

WHEREAS, Charles Rinker, a respected pioneer in affordable housing and a passionate advocate for social justice who founded numerous community development organizations, died on January 8, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a native of Winchester, Charles "Charlie" Rinker attended Drew University in New Jersey, then relocated to Washington, D.C., where he worked with People Against Slum Housing; and

WHEREAS, Charlie Rinker was a founder and president of Arlington Housing Corporation (AHC) and Affordable Home Ownership Made Easier; he represented the community as a member of the Arlington County Housing Commission and offered his wise leadership to other civic groups; and

WHEREAS, as the principal of Rinker and Associates, a development consulting firm, Charlie Rinker helped dozens of tenant associations acquire or renovate more than 1,300 housing units for low-income or moderate-income families in the area; he helped retain housing units at Buckingham Village, Taylor Square Apartments, Lee Gardens, Arna Valley, and other locations; and

WHEREAS, as the president of Buyers and Renters Arlington Voice, Charlie Rinker worked with landlords and tenants to strengthen the community through education, engagement, and innovative programs; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Charlie Rinker and his wife, Lora, established Arlington New Directions, which has worked to strengthen communities by closing the achievement gap, preserving diversity, and supporting affordable housing and workers' rights initiatives; and

WHEREAS, admired as a moral compass on social justice issues, Charlie Rinker strove to build consensus and find practical solutions to the challenges faced by less fortunate members of the Arlington community; and

WHEREAS, Charlie Rinker earned many awards and accolades for his work, including the James B. Hunter Award and the Alliance for Housing Solutions' Ellen M. Bozman Affordable Housing Award; he was also named to the AHC Hall of Fame and as an Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing honoree; and

WHEREAS, Charlie Rinker will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Lora; children, Matthew, Natalie, and Jeremy, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Charles Rinker, a tireless champion for members of the Arlington community in need; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Charles Rinker as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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