

17104248D

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 363

Offered February 3, 2017

Commending Rebecca L. Covey.

Patrons—Hanger, Norment, Carrico, Deeds, Ebbin, Favola, Howell and Lucas; Delegates: Jones and Landes

WHEREAS, Rebecca L. Covey, legislative fiscal analyst for the Senate Finance Committee, retired on July 1, 2016, after 40 years of exemplary service to the people of the Commonwealth and the Senate of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Rebecca "Becky" Covey began her career with the Commonwealth as the assistant budget director for The College of William and Mary; and

WHEREAS, Becky Covey then joined Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University as an accountant and rose to the position of assistant chief accountant; and

WHEREAS, upon her move to Richmond in 1980, Becky Covey joined the staff of the House Appropriations Committee, where she served in a variety of roles as an analyst for health and human services, natural resources, economic development, public education, and higher education; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, Becky Covey's talents and leadership skills were acknowledged as she was named the director of the House Appropriations Committee staff, a role she held for 10 years and one in which she earned the deep admiration and respect of the members and each chair of the House Appropriations Committee; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, Becky Covey accepted an offer to move from the ninth to the tenth floor of the General Assembly Building to join the staff of the Finance Committee of the upper chamber; and

WHEREAS, in her role as tax policy and revenue analyst for the Senate Finance Committee, Becky Covey demonstrated her financial acumen and knowledge of Virginia's tax policies and revenues, producing an annual general fund revenue forecast that rivaled the "official" forecast for accuracy; and

WHEREAS, Becky Covey quietly yet firmly worked to advance policies that preserved the Commonwealth's resources, encouraged fairness and equity among taxpayers, and supported a fiscally sound budget, and in so doing earned the respect of House and Senate members, administration and agency staff, and lobbyists; and

WHEREAS, Becky Covey's high professional standards and personal attention to detail were reflected in every project she undertook, including the comprehensive tax reform efforts of 2004 and numerous transportation funding initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Becky Covey's contributions as a fiscal analyst were acknowledged by the National Conference of State Legislatures when she received the 2007 Legislative Staff Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, in her roles as chief visionary, mentor, and editor extraordinaire, Becky Covey encouraged numerous fiscal analysts to aspire to her high standards of professionalism and the exercise of good judgment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Rebecca L. Covey for her outstanding service to the Commonwealth and her contribution to the principles of sound fiscal policy; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Rebecca L. Covey as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for her dedication, respect for her integrity and professionalism, and sincere best wishes for a well-deserved and enjoyable retirement.

INTRODUCED

SJ363