

2020 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

20200228D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 518

Offered August 18, 2020

Prefiled August 18, 2020

Commending Paul D. Koonce.

Patron—Cox

WHEREAS, Paul D. Koonce, an esteemed businessman and civic leader, has served the Commonwealth admirably for many years as a member of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Board of Trustees and as president of 2019 Commemoration, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, prior to his retirement in 2020, Paul Koonce was at the forefront of the Virginia energy industry for nearly four decades, serving in several prominent executive positions with Dominion Energy throughout his career; and

WHEREAS, from 2010 through 2019, Paul Koonce served as a member of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Board of Trustees, where he was instrumental to the Commonwealth's efforts to educate the public through living history displays at the Jamestown Settlement and the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, Paul Koonce served as president of 2019 Commemoration, Inc., the public-private partnership developed to organize the Commonwealth's official recognition of several major historic events that occurred in Virginia more than 400 years ago, including the establishment of the state's first representative legislative assembly and the arrival of the first Africans to English North America; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution, featured more than 20 exhibitions, programs, and signature events to bolster the Commonwealth's education, tourism, and economic development initiatives and to increase awareness of Virginia's significance to the founding and history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Paul Koonce helped raise \$4.3 million in private donations to fund the 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution, elevating the Commonwealth's celebration of the ideals of democracy, diversity, and opportunity as they are embodied by the historical events of 1619; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Paul Koonce's indefatigable efforts, the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation and Commemoration 2019, Inc., have successfully fulfilled their missions to educate and serve the public; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Paul D. Koonce, an accomplished executive and a tireless civic leader dedicated to championing Virginia's history, hereby be commended for his years of service to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation and 2019 Commemoration, Inc.; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Paul D. Koonce as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his outstanding contributions to the Commonwealth.

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