

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

21200498D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 559

Offered February 22, 2021

Commending Tom Turner.

Patron—Webert

WHEREAS, Tom Turner retired as district manager of the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District after more than two decades of service to the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Tom Turner previously worked for the Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District and joined the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District team in October 2001; and

WHEREAS, Tom Turner was promoted to conservation manager of the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District in July 2007 and to district manager in May 2017; and

WHEREAS, Tom Turner worked for years to increase public access to the Rappahannock River for Fauquier County residents, and he helped establish the From the Rappahannock, For the Rappahannock event, which was held annually between 2015 and 2019; and

WHEREAS, Tom Turner created the Riparian Tree-Age Program, which resulted in the planting of 75 acres of riparian buffer with native trees and shrubs on local farms over eight years; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Tom Turner built strong relationships with several major landowners in the region, including George Thompson, Marriott Ranch, Kilkenny Farm, and Springfield Farm, the four of which alone accounted for 46.9 miles of protected streambank and 472 acres of riparian buffer; and

WHEREAS, since 2007, Tom Turner has overseen the protection of more than 311 miles of streambank, the creation of more than 2,200 total acres of riparian buffer, and more than \$8.6 million cost-share allocated through the Virginia Agricultural Cost-Share Program; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Tom Turner hereby be commended on the occasion of his retirement as district manager of the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Tom Turner as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his work to preserve the Commonwealth's valuable natural resources.

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