1995 SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 421

Commending John E. Divine.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 13, 1995 Agreed to by the Senate, January 19, 1995

WHEREAS, John E. Divine, a seventh-generation native of Loudoun County, has been accurately described as a "Civil War historic treasure," for his many and continuing contributions to the history of Loudoun and the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, a native of Waterford who currently resides in Leesburg, John Divine has for over 30 years added immeasurably to the rich historic heritage of the area; and

WHEREAS, a recognized and widely respected expert on the Civil War, John Divine has published three books on the War, has appeared on such television series as "Blue and Gray Journal," has provided expert commentary to history groups throughout the eastern United States, and has shared generously his vast knowledge of Loudoun and Civil War history; and

WHEREAS, John Divine has frequently been called upon by authors, historians, researchers, and the simply curious to share his expertise, and the response is unfailingly friendly, prompt, and inspirational; and

WHEREAS, John Divine has founded or organized numerous groups devoted to Virginia's historic heritage, including the Loudoun Civil War Roundtable, the Clinton Hatcher Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, two Leesburg Civil War history groups, and the Loudoun Museum Lecturer Series; and

WHEREAS, John Divine also has done exhaustive and invaluable research in his hometown of Waterford, serving as a member and officer of the Waterford Foundation and researching, organizing, and recording village records going back to the 1730s; and

WHEREAS, John Divine's contributions to the history of Loudoun and the Civil War are many, varied, and lasting, and his willingness to share his knowledge, his generosity, and his unique ability to communicate his enthusiasm for the history of his community and Virginia truly make him a historic treasure; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend John E. Divine for his exceptional contributions to the historic heritage of Loudoun County and the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to John E. Divine as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for his lifetime of passionate commitment to Virginia's history.